



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific**

Ref. BDT/ROASP/2024-077

Bangkok, 02 May 2024

**ITU Sector Members and ITU Associate
Members in Asia and the Pacific region**

Subject: Invitation to the 3rd Meeting of the ITU Industry Informal Working Group in Asia and the Pacific

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you and your organization to join the 3rd Meeting of the ITU Industry Informal Working Group in Asia and the Pacific. This meeting will be held virtually on 14 May 2024, from 13:00PM – 14:30PM Bangkok time (GMT+7).

As part of the engagement with ITU sector and associate members based in the region, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific has created the ITU Industry Informal Working Group in Asia and the Pacific. This informal working group provides a platform to update industry stakeholders in the region about upcoming events, projects, and activities, as well as to highlight potential partnership opportunities and modalities to deepen membership engagement with ITU.

This meeting will also provide an opportunity for sector and associate members to meet each other virtually. Finally, it will allow for members to express interest in joining and refreshing the contact lists for the ITU Industry Informal Working Group in Asia and the Pacific.

Additional information is available in **Annex 1** to this letter. Registration is available at the following link: [register here](#). The event webpage is available at the following link: <http://itu.int/go/IOBI>.

For any additional inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Calvin Chan (calvin.chan@itu.int).

I look forward to your and your colleagues' active participation in the session.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Atsuko', is located below the 'Yours sincerely,' text.

Atsuko Okuda
Regional Director

Annex 1: Concept Note

3rd Meeting of ITU Industry Informal Working Group Meeting in Asia and the Pacific (virtual)

14 May 2024
(13:00 PM – 14:30 PM, Bangkok)

1.0 Background

ITU is hosting the quadrennial [World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly \(WTSA\)](#) scheduled in Delhi, India, from 15-24 October 2024. As the flagship conference of ITU's standardization (ITU-T) sector, WTSA defines the general policy for the ITU-T Sector, establishes the study groups, approves their expected work programme for the next four-year period, and appoints chairmen and vice-chairmen.

As part WTSA 2024, a number of related events will be held that may be of interest to ITU's sector members in the Asia-Pacific region. This includes:

- [5th Global Standards Symposium](#), 14 October 2024
- [Network of Women for WTSA-24](#), 17 October 2024
- AI for Good, Impact India, 18 October 2024
- [ITU Kaleidoscope](#), 21 – 23 October 2024
- UN Day, 24 October 2024

Additionally, ITU opened an Area Office for South Asia and global Innovation Centre in New Delhi last year. The ITU Area Office and Innovation Centre brings together government, industry, academia and others in an entrepreneurial environment so that digital technology advancements in sectors such as agriculture, health, and education can reach the communities that need them most.

Finally, in 2022 ITU launched the Partner2Connect digital coalition. This innovative platform is engaging all stakeholders to mobilize and pledge resources, partnerships, and commitments to foster meaningful connectivity and digital transformation in the hardest-to-connect communities, with a focus on, but not limited to, Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries, and Small Island Developing States. Pledges do not have to be financial, but can also take the form of Policy, Advocacy, or Programme. More information on pledges [can be found at the link here](#).

Additionally, under the ITU Development Sector (ITU-D), a number of upcoming activities and new projects are being organized at the global and regional levels that can harness academia participation. This includes (but is not limited to):

- [Telecommunication Development Advisory Group](#) from 20-23 May in Geneva
- [Global Symposium of Regulators 2024](#) from 1-4 July, in Kampala, Uganda
- [Industry Advisory Group on Development Issues](#) (IAGDI) and Chief Regulatory Officers meeting (IAGDI-CRO), on 2 July in Kampala, Uganda.
- [ITU-D Study Group Meetings](#)
- [Partner2Connect National Roundtable Cambodia](#) from 8-9 July in Phnom Penh, Cambodia

In this context, the role of industry sector partners is crucial in fostering innovations throughout the Asia-Pacific region, including through the Partner2Connect pledge platform.

Therefore, it is proposed to convene the 3rd meeting of the *ITU Industry Informal Working Group for Asia and the Pacific* to highlight potential partnerships, linked to the work of the ITU Regional Office for Asia-Pacific.

2.0 Meeting objectives

This meeting is being organized to update the ITU industry members and partners on upcoming events, projects, Area Office and Innovation Center in Delhi, and potential collaboration modalities with ITU Regional Office, including through Partner2Connect. This meeting will also explore potential partnerships in this context.

The meeting will also allow for the Industry Informal Working Group contact lists to be refreshed should there be interest in joining this meeting.

3.0 Draft agenda

13:00 – 13:15	Welcome remarks Atsuko Okuda, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia-Pacific Introduction by participants
13:15 – 13:45	Presentation by ITU
13:45 – 14:25	Open Discussion
14:25 – 14:30	Way forward and closing

4.0 Target audience

- ITU Industry Sector Members in the Asia-Pacific region
- ITU Industry Associate Members in the Asia-Pacific Region