

Report
Of Regional Videoconference for CIS dedicated to
International Girls in ICT Day and ITU 150th Anniversary
Moscow, Russian Federation, 23 April 2015

Of Regional Videoconference for CIS dedicated to the International Girls in ICT Day and the ITU 150th Anniversary, organized by the ITU Area Office for CIS in cooperation with Moscow Technical University of Communications and Informatics, took place in Moscow, Russian Federation, on 23 April 2015.



Total number of participants of the videoconference made 93 (including 77 remote participants), who represented 7 CIS countries (Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, and Ukraine), as well as Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC), International Communication Academy, and International Telecommunication Union.

Since the main objective of the Girls in ICT events is attraction of new female specialists in the ICT sector, the majority of the audience of the videoconference consisted of female students from ICT-specialized universities of the CIS region: Eurasian National University named after Lev Gumilev (Republic of Kazakhstan), Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications (IET) under Kyrgyz State Technical University named after Iskhak Razzakov (Kyrgyz Republic), and Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications (ONAT) named after Alexander Popov (Ukraine). The two letter universities are ITU-D Sector Members. Also, the Communication Administration of the Republic of Moldova took a broad participation in the event. Representatives of the Russian Federation, including the Communication Administration, the Higher School of Economics, OJSC Rostelecom, participated in the videoconference onsite.

Both sessions of the event, dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day and the ITU 150th Anniversary accordingly, were moderated by Mr. Orozobek Kaiykov, Head of the ITU Area Office for CIS.

At the opening ceremony, greeting speeches were delivered by Ms. Yulia Gutsal, who represented the RCC Executive Committee, and Mr. Orozobek Kaiykov. The official opening was completed with the ITU film, dedicated to the International Girls in ICT Day.

Within the frameworks of Session 1, Ms. Vera Soloveva from the ITU Area Office delivered the ITU presentation, dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day, containing, in particular, some noteworthy statistics relating to female involvement in the ICT sector in different regions of the world.

A very encouraging presentation was delivered by Ms. Torybay and Ms. Tulpkaliyeva from Eurasian National University named after Lev Gumilev, which was dedicated to practice-oriented training in ICT of female students.

Students of ONAT presented very promising statistics: almost 100% of the ONAT graduates have possibility to find employment by profession. As for gender balance in the ONAT, girls make 95% of students at sociology faculty, 70% of students at economy faculty, and one third of students at radio technical faculty.

Ms. Anastasia Ositis, President of International Communication Academy, presented her personal experience of successful balancing work and life. Ms. Ositis, who passed all mastery steps as “classical communications man”, now heads the most authoritative telecom society in Russia.

Bright opportunities which are opened today for women in the ICT were presented by Ms. Oksana Navernova, Specialist, Radiofrequency Regulation Department, Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications of the Russian Federation; Ms. Gulnara Abdrakhmanova, Director, Information Society Statistics and Monitoring Centre, Institute of Statistical Research and Knowledge Economy, Higher School of Economics; Ms. Rosa Yeliseyeva and Ms. Stalina Ugarova from Training Center, Institute of Upgrade Qualifications, Moscow Technical University of Telecommunications (MTUCI); Ms. Natalia Sychugova, Chief Specialist, Economics and Administration Sector, Executive Committee, RCC; Ms. Niso Mukhitdinova, Specialist, Interevale; as well as Ms. Ekaterina Fomicheva, Chief Specialist, International Department, OJSC Rostelecom. Ms. Elena Kim, Head, Billing Division, CJSC Alfa Telecom (Kyrgyz Republic) told of what can be achieved by a woman in the ICT sector.



Ms. Gayane Valchevskaya, Regional Manager for CIS/RCC, Cisco Network Academy, who arrived from Minsk, Republic of Belarus, wished that educational institutions providing trainings in Cisco network technologies create own qualification centres, which could issue commercial Cisco certificates. This would simplify access to high technologies for the students, including girls.

Representatives of the *Femme Digital* Club created recently in the Republic of Azerbaijan participated in the videoconference remotely. The main objective of the *Femme Digital* is to attract more girls and women in the dynamic ICT sector, which is today one of the priority sector of economy in the Republic of Azerbaijan. In addition to participation in the videoconference, the Club organized two more events, dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day on 23 April 2015. In cooperation with Ministry of Communications and High Technologies, ADA University–School of Information Technologies and Engineering (SITE), the ICT Committee AMCHAM, and WoWoman.org the *Femme Digital* organized the conference *DigiGirls of Azerbaijan: what is ICT role in woman life?* The Girls in ICT Day in Azerbaijan was opened with the conference *DIGI is FASHIONABLE! FEMMES DIGITALES at ZARIFA ALIYEVA LYCEUM*, held in the Lyceum named after Zarifa Aliyeva, which is launching *SCHOOLS ROADSHOW* in Azerbaijan to make IT attractive for 9-11 grade school girls. This event was aimed at

sharing the experience of the *Femme Digital* founders with the school girls and inspiring them to continue their education in ICT.

Based on the discussions of Session 1 of the Girls in ICT videoconference, the participants proposed to reestablish mentoring practice for young specialists; organize accumulation statistics relating to women involvement in the ICT sector of Russia; initiate programme of e-waste utilization; initiate a training programme for primary school pupils aimed at mastering cybersecurity elements.

Within the framework of Session 2 dedicated to the ITU 150th Anniversary, Mr. Orozobek Kaiykov presented the ITU history and achievement. A presentation dedicated to the RCC/ITU cooperation was delivered by Ms. Natalia Sychugova, Chief Specialist, Sector of Economics and Administrative Activities, RCC Executive Committee. Also, presentations dedicated to the ITU 150th Anniversary were delivered by Ms. Irian Bogoroditskaya, Senior Editor, *Elektorsvyaz* Magazine, and Ms. Anastasia Ostis, President, International Communication Academy, who focused on the cooperation between the Academy and the ITU in the field of innovations.

The videoconference participants expressed gratitude to the International Telecommunication Union for organization of the event covering the very important topic. The International Telecommunication Union, in its turn, expresses gratitude to all participants for the presentations delivered and for active participation in the discussions.

Events in the CIS Dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day

A number of events dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day took place in the countries of the CIS region.

Within the framework of the visit of Ms. Eun-Ju Kim, Director, Partnership and Innovation Department, BDT/ITU, to Moscow, Russian Federation, a roundtable dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day was held in Ostankino TV studio on 10 March 2015. The roundtable was attended by representatives of ICT-related companies and universities of the Russian Federation and covered the issues of career development of women in the ICT and raising their role in the ICT industry.

Two events dedicated to the Girls in the ICT Day were organized by Cisco network academy in Minsk, Republic of Belarus. The event on Fundamentals of Informatics was held in the secondary school # 61 of the city of Minsk with participation of 25 school girls by the school director Ms. Olga Lobko, who is the Cisco Academy instructor on 21 April 2015. Another event dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day was held by Cisco Academy in Belorussian State University of Informatics and Radio Electronics on 28 April 2015.

Within the framework of the Girls in ICT Day, Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications (IET) under Kyrgyz State Technical University named after Iskhak Razzakov (Kyrgyz Republic) organized an excursion for female students of 1st to 4th years to OJSC Kyrgyztelecom and CJSC Alfa Telecom on 22 April 2015 to acquaint the girls with the working process of the companies. Also, the IET organized a contest of essays dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day, and the winners of the contest were awarded on 23 April 2015. Also, a seminar dedicated to the Girls in ICT Day was held in the State Communication Agency under the Government of Kyrgyz Republic on 23 April 2015 with participation of female students and women who achieved success in the ICT sector of Kyrgyz Republic.

Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications (ONAT) named after Alexander Popov (Ukraine) held a beauty and intelligence contest among the female students on 24 April 2015, under the title

ONAT Star 2015, which was aimed at promotion of personal development of the girls in the field of ICT. Under one of the contest nominations, called exactly *Girls in ICT*, the girls delivered a speeches dedicated to one of the most important areas of the ITU (anonymity on the Internet; the benefits and dangers of social networking; how to keep literacy during the communication on the Internet? how to avoid becoming a victim of virtual reality? How much time you can spend on the Internet? threats to the life and health from the Internet; what information can be trusted on the Internet? etc.). The winner of the contest Ms. Daria Bliznyuk delivered a speech on rules of netiquette.