



Ref.: № 42-07/23
12 July 2023

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- Regulators, ITU Sector Members and Academia
- National Statistical Organizations of ITU Member States
- Regional and International Organizations

Subject: ITU Forum on Digital Transformation, 28 - 30 August 2023, Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyz Republic

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the regional **Forum on Digital Transformation** organized by the International telecommunication Union (ITU), which will be held on **28 - 30 August, 2023 in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan**, at the kind invitation of the Ministry for Digital Development of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Forum will facilitate information sharing and strengthening cooperation in the preparation of national strategic documents on digital development, exchange of experience on managing the process of digital transformation, approaches to digital regulation, building capacity for informed decision-making on relevant sectoral legislation based on comparable statistical data. Thus, the Forum will contribute to the implementation of the Regional Initiative WTDC-22 CIS3 «Creating an enabling legal and regulatory environment to accelerate digital transformation».

Participants of the Forum will discuss issues related to digital regulation, digital infrastructure development, collection, processing and analysis of ICT statistics. Delegates are invited to **present national experience** (best practices and challenges) **during the panel discussions and thematic sessions**, and participate in the training session collecting, processing and using ICT statistics to measure digital transformation (draft program of the Forum is attached). At the same time, I would like to inform you that the Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications plans a number of activities of its working bodies at the same dates in Issyk-Kul.

The Forum will bring together representatives of line ministries and agencies, regulators, national statistical organizations, including staff responsible for collection and processing of ICT statistics, completing ITU surveys. And questionnaires (ICT Regulatory Survey, ITU Tariff Policies Survey, ICT Household and Administrative Indicators, Global Cybersecurity Index).

To facilitate the participation of developing countries¹ and subject to the availability of funding, ITU will provide one full or two partial fellowships for the country. A candidate's application for a scholarship must be approved by the relevant Communications Administration. Full fellowships will cover the air ticket (one return economy class ticket by the most direct/economical route from the country of origin to the meeting venue), and appropriate daily subsistence allowance intended to cover accommodation, meals and incidental expenses. A partial fellowship covers either a return economy class air ticket or a daily subsistence allowance. In the case of partial fellowships, ITU will bear the cost of air tickets or daily subsistence allowance while the concerned Member State shall cover the remainder of the cost of the participation.

¹ <https://www.itu.int/en/fellowships/Documents/2023/ListEligibleCountries2023.pdf>

The duly validated fellowship request form (enclosed) and its annexes, if any, must be returned to the Fellowships Service by e-mail (fellowships@itu.int) or by fax (+ 41 22 730 57 78), **by 24 July 2023 at the very latest**. Registration prior to submitting the fellowship request is mandatory.

All documents, including registration form, practical information and fellowship request form, will be posted on the webpage of the event: <https://www.itu.int/ru/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/CIS/Pages/EVENTS/2023/DTForum.aspx> The main working language of the Forum will be Russian. Individual sessions will be interpreted.

Participants are requested to complete the registration form in advance.

For questions related to participation in the Forum, including to coordinate delivering the statement in panel of thematic discussions provided by the program, please contact the representative of the Regional Office Ms. Irina Divakova (e-mail: irina.divakova@itu.int; mob.tel: +375 29 3140976).

For logistical questions please contact the representative of the Regional Office Ms. Nastassia Lahutsik (e-mail: nastassia.lahutsik@itu.int; mob.tel: +375 29 7921916).

I look forward to your organization's active participation.

Yours faithfully,

[original signed]

Natalia Mochu
Director
ITU Regional Office for CIS Region