REGIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ACCESSIBLE EUROPE
Call for Contributions

ITU-EC Forum for Europe "Accessible Europe: ICT 4 ALL"
4-6 December 2019 in St George's Bay, St Julian's, Malta

Following the success of the 2018 edition, ITU and European Commission have joined efforts to organise the second edition of "**Accessible Europe: ICT 4 ALL**". The ITU-EC Forum for Europe will be hosted by Aġenzija Sapport of the Government of Malta in St George's Bay, St Julian's, Malta, from 4-6 December 2019 (http://itu.int/go/Accessible-Europe-19). With the aim of establishing ACCESSIBLE EUROPE as a focal platform for discussing ICT Accessibility in Europe Region, **organisers are seeking input from all interested stakeholders,** from the private, public, non-profit and academic sectors.

Background

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have a vital role for ALL people's empowerment and represent an enabler for inclusion in society. For persons with disabilities (PwD), ICTs are essential barrier removers which help them live an independent life, participate in cultural events or political processes, benefit from education or entertainment, or obtain a job.

The European Commission and ITU have taken steps to promote ICT accessibility for many years. ITU has committed to making **ICT Accessibility a priority for the period 2018-2021** and Member States have set the goal that accessible telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities are established in all countries by 2023. The second edition of the ITU-EC Forum on "**Accessible Europe: ICT 4 ALL**" is held within the framework of the **ITU Regional Initiative for Europe** on *Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development* that aims to bridge the digital divide and equip all groups of society, including persons with disabilities and specific needs, to take advantage of ICTs.

Contribution

Through the present call, organizers seek to attract contributions from interested parties in order to facilitate the **exchange of practices** within the ICT accessibility community in Europe. Organizers are offering a platform through which all stakeholders can showcase their activities, call for collaboration and reiterate their committment to fostering ICT accessibility in the Europe region. Interested participants are welcomed to **complete the form in the Annex** to this call and return to EURregion@itu.int no later than **15 November 2019.** Please note that the contributor is solely responsible and accountable for the content submitted.

Contributions will be **published on the ITU website** within a week of submission at the latest. Contributors will be recognised as supporters of the Regional Initiative for Europe with their names and logos. Submissions will contribute to the discussions at "Accessible Europe: ICT 4 ALL". Contributors' names and logos will also be displayed in the Outcome Report of "Accessible Europe: ICT 4 ALL" to be published in December 2019, in the days following the event.

Other Information

For more details on the event, please visit the event website at http://itu.int/go/Accessible-Europe-19, where information on the agenda, registration, logistics, and other useful links are available and regularly updated. For any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us at EURregion@itu.int.