International Telecommunication Union

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR AFRICA

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> Ministries of ICTs,
> Regulators,
> Representatives of Persons with Disabilities

Subject: **Invitation to the workshop on the development of an ICT-accessibility Policy for East Africa Region , 6-7 October 2016, Nairobi, Kenya**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), is pleased to invite you to the workshop on "development of an ICT -accessibility Policy for the East Africa region". The workshop is organised by the ITU Regional Office for Africa in partnership with East Africa Community (EAC) and kindly hosted by the Communications Authority of Kenya in Nairobi, on the 6th and 7th October 2016.

In an effort to facilitate digital inclusion, governments around the world are exploring and implementing various approaches to ensure universal access to digital information, particularly access for Persons with disabilities. Therefore, the objective of this workshop is to discuss and develop policy recommendations on ICT-accessibility. The policy recommendations will be addressed to policy makers in EAC Member States. It is expected that, upon validation and approval, the policies will then be transposed and implemented at the national level. The recommendations will also constitute a valuable benchmark for replication across Africa.

At the workshop, Member States will be expected to give updates on national initiatives on enhancing accessibility to digital information to Persons with disabilities.

Digital inclusion of all citizens whatever their disabilities must be a reality if Africa is to benefit from the human resource potential of all its citizens.
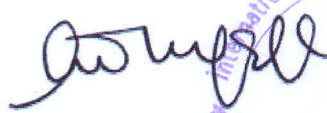
All information on the venue, registration, draft agenda and work program and other documents of the workshop can be found on the following link on the ROA website:
http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/E_accessibility_EastAfrica.aspx

In the meantime, you may contact the following persons should you need any additional information: Ms. Rachel Alwala E mail: Alwalca@ca.go.ke or Mr. Marcelino Tayob, Senior Adviser, Regional Office for Africa of the ITU, E-mail: addis@itu.int and marcelino.tayob@itu.int, Tel: +251 11 551 49 77.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to participate in this important event which will be crucial for the region.

Yours faithfully,

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

Cc: Secretary General,
    East African Community
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Annexe: Draft agenda and work program (Annex I)