

REGIONAL ASSESSMENT: ICT ACCESSIBILITY

The 28 Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee I: Telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies (PCC.I),


CONSIDERING:

- a) that the ITU prepared a questionnaire that aims at collecting information regarding achievements and views of stakeholders on related issues in the Americas region to draw a picture on where we stand on this matter and to enrich the discussions during the regional event Accessible Americas III: Information and Communication to ALL, to be carried out in Mexico City, from 28 to 30 November 2015;
- b) that the next regional meeting on ICT accessibility presents a milestone opportunity to deepen the regional commitment towards removing barriers faced by persons with disabilities and achieving a more inclusive society through the development of concrete actions and changes on the ground, and the mainstreaming of accessible ICT in the regional telecommunication agenda framework,

DECIDES:

- 1. To request the Secretariat of CITEI to distribute to the OAS/CITEI Member States the questionnaire annexed hereto in order to assess ICT accessibility in the Americas Region.
- 2. To ask OAS/CITEI Member States that have not already done so via ITU itself, to provide information about views and achievements on ICT accessibility.
- 3. To request OAS/CITEI Member States to send their response to the CITEI Secretariat (citei@oas.org), copying to Vera.Zanetti@ties.itu.int and asuntosinternacionales@ift.org.mx.
- 4. To request OAS/CITEI Member States responding to this request to provide their inputs as soon as possible and no later than October 7 2015.

ANNEX TO DECISION PCC.I/DEC. 248 (XXVIII-16)

Questions for the Regional Consultation and Inputs for Preparatory Work for the Meeting Accessible Americas III: Information and Communication for ALL	 ITU International Telecommunication Union
---	---

¹ CCP.I-TIC/doc. 3883/16 rev. 2

Instructions:

We kindly ask you to read the Questions carefully and provide the best possible related information that you can, considering your organization/institution/company's achievements and views. Your inputs will contribute to make a better assessment of the achieved progress in the Americas region and will enrich the discussions during the event in Mexico City. Your answers can be as long as necessary and you can return the form in a PDF format to ensure the accuracy of the information provided.

Thank you for your collaboration!

Background

From 12 to 14 November 2014, the participants in the Accessible Americas: Information and Communication for ALL regional conference, held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, shared challenges and best practices for promoting ICT accessibility. As a result of the discussions facilitated by ITU and UNESCO, which put together regional governments representatives, intergovernmental agencies, regional organizations, civil society, organizations representing persons with disabilities and the private sector, it was developed a set of guidelines including principles and actions needed to support implementation of ICT accessibility in the Americas Region, aiming at encouraging all relevant stakeholders to become leaders in promoting ICT accessibility within their respective working areas.

During the following regional meeting on ICT accessibility, held in Medellín, Colombia, from 4 to 6 November 2015, presented a milestone opportunity to deepen the regional commitment towards removing barriers faced by persons with disabilities and achieving an inclusive society through the development of concrete actions and changes on the ground, and the mainstreaming of accessible ICT in the regional telecommunication agenda framework.

To this end, “**Accessible Americas III**”, which will be hosted in Mexico City, Mexico, from 28 to 30 November 2016, at the kind invitation of the Telecommunication Federal Institute (IFT), will focuses on the importance of promoting accessibility policies; motivating policymakers of these policies, regulators and industries; and encouraging all the stakeholders concerned to work together with PwD in the expansion and inclusion of accessibility in all processes: legal framework; public access to ICTs; movable communications; television and video programming accessibility; web accessibility, mobile telephony, and public procurement of accessible ICTs.

The present questionnaire form is intended to collect inputs from all relevant stakeholders and thus, not only to enable them to share their challenges and experiences but also to contribute to a regional report, which will be presented in the next venue of Accessible Americas III and will contribute to the outcomes of the Meeting. The inputs should be submitted via email to: Fernando.Ribeiro@ties.itu.int, copying Vera.Zanetti@itu.int

The objectives of this report are to provide a regional summary on the policy commitments countries are undertaking in regards to ICT accessibility; to identify some of the major emerging trends and examples of commitments that add relevant values to make ICTs accessible; to highlight best practices that can inspire other countries to tackle new challenges; to encourage all stakeholders to a multilateral partnership and to play a leadership role in making ICTs accessible for all. The questions are the same questions we have distributed in 2015 when just a few countries replied and sent their inputs. This time we would like to be able to count on more contributions so current regional scenario can be more precise in terms of the developments and advances achieved. We thank you in advance for your collaboration.

**Questions for the Regional Consultation
and Inputs for Preparatory Work for the
Meeting **Accessible Americas III:**
*Information and Communication for ALL***



Questions

1. What are your (organization/institution/company) **major achievements** in implementing ICT accessibility policies in line with the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Principles and Guidelines stressed on the Declaration document of the first Accessible Americas Meeting?
2. What were your (organization/institution/company) **major challenges** faced in implementing ICT accessibility policies in line with the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Principles and Guidelines stressed on the Declaration document of the first Accessible Americas Meeting?
3. What approaches, steps or specific measures have proven to be **most successful** in promoting ICT accessibility for your (organization/institution/company)?
4. According to your experience which of these specific approaches, steps or actions should be a **priority** to facilitate and accelerate the goal of achieving an inclusive society in Americas Region in line with the objectives of U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the 1st Accessible Americas Declaration document?
5. What **concrete actions have been implemented** by your (organization/institution/company) to improve the quality and availability of accessible ICTs products and services for persons with disabilities?
6. What has been done by your (organization/institution/company) to **strengthen the awareness** of national stakeholders to upgrade knowledge, develop their expertise and skills to promote ICT accessibility policies and programmes?
7. In addition to the actions identified before, are there any **other elements or actions** in your (organization/institution/company) **agenda as immediate next steps** to contribute to the implementation of ICT Accessibility in Americas Region?

8. In your view, and according to your experience **what more your company/institution/organization can do** in order to promote the goal of ICT accessibility in your country.

9. In your view and according to your experience **what more other stakeholders** (a. civil society including organizations of persons with disabilities and other NGOs; b. international organizations; c. telecommunication agencies and d. academic institutions) **should/could do** in order to promote the goal of ICT accessibility in your country/Americas region.

10. Please indicate if there is **any specific issue/suggestion** that you would like to bring to the attention of the participants to the next Accessible Americas Meeting, which can help to promote and accelerate the implementation of ICT Accessibility in your country/region.

Please identify yourself:

(Name of your organization/institution/company)

(Country where it is based)

(Name and title/post)

(telephone) (e-mail)

(core business/mandate)