



Media advisory

The United Nations symposium on statistics will debate the function of technology in world-wide sustainable development

Experts of the public and private sectors and civil society will meet in Mexico City for a high level debate on the models of growth following the year 2015

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Geneva, November 27, 2013 - The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the specialized body of the United Nations for information and communication technologies, (ICTs) will hold their annual conference on ICT statistics in Mexico City from December 4-6 in the presence of about 300 important development and statistics experts from around the world, who will debate on new strategies to channel the catalytic power of technology and to impel socioeconomic advance based on coherent parameters.

The World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS) will be jointly held by the [ITU](#) and the Federal Telecommunications Institute (*Instituto Federal de Telecomunicaciones*, IFT) Mexican regulator for telecommunications and broadcasting.

The ITU, the main body that compiles and discloses numerous essential statistics on ICTs, is generally recognized as the most trustworthy and impartial source of global data on the state of infrastructure and the adoption of ICTs in the world. ITU's numbers are widely used by the United Nations, important intergovernmental bodies, financial institutions such as the World Bank, the IMF and regional development banks, as well as by private sector companies and ICT sector analysts.

ICT networks are an indispensable platform for providing services in all industrial sectors and, therefore, precise data on penetration, rates and access to ICTs are of increasing interest for development bodies and consumers, as well as for governments and business persons. The ITU publishes the world-wide data base of the most used ICTs, as well as the annual report named [Measuring the Information Society](#).

The Symposium this year will begin with three high level debates regarding fundamental priorities of the world-wide development agenda and the functions of ICTs after the ODM.

Confirmed speakers are Gerardo Ruiz Esparza, Minister of Communications and Transport of Mexico; Gabriel Contreras Saldívar, President of the IFT; leaders of United Nations bodies such as: [Dr. Hamadoun I. Touré](#), Secretary General of the ITU; academia experts such as [Professor Jeffrey Sachs](#) (*Earth Institute, Columbia University & Millennium Villages project*), personalities of the telecommunications sector, such as [Carlos Slim Helú](#) (Carlos Slim Foundation) and, respected world-wide analysts such as [Sam Pitroda](#), [Brahima Sanou](#), Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau; among others. The complete list of speakers can be seen at www.itu.int/wtis/newsroom.

We invite journalists to register now to attend the **First Day** of this important international event. Pre-enrollment ends on **Monday, December 2nd, at 18:00 CST**.

International Telecommunication Union www.itu.int/newsroom

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- Name:** World Telecommunications/ICT Indicators Symposium
- Date:** December 4-6, 2013.
Opened to the media on December 4th only.
- Venue:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Plaza Juárez #20, Cuauhtémoc, Mexico City
- Purpose:** The opportunity to hear and interview outstanding speakers of the Mexican government and the private sector, as well as of the ICT world-wide community
- Speakers:** Experts of the world-wide statistics community, ICT analysts and regulator agencies, government leaders and politicians, private sector high-level executives and prominent personalities of the United Nations organizations.
- Media advisory** **Preenrollment is mandatory.** Write to angelina.mejia@ift.org.mx

ITU Statistics at www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/statistics

A conclusion summary on the measuring the information society, with computer graphics and overview, is available on PowerPoint at www.itu.int/go/mis2013

Follow this event in Twitter at: #ITUdata

For more information, visit [the event's Web site](#) or contact:

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About the ITU

ITU is the most important organization of the United Nations regarding information and communication technologies. For almost 150 years, the ITU has been coordinating the sharing of the radio electric spectrum on a world-wide scale, has promoted international cooperation for the allocation of satellite orbits, has made an effort to improve the infrastructure of telecommunications in the developing world, and has established the world-wide norms that guarantee the continuous interconnection of an ample range of communications systems. From broadband networks to state-of-the-art wireless technologies, aeronautical and marine navigation, radio astronomy, meteorology by satellite and convergent fixed and mobile telephony, Internet and broadcasting technologies, ITU is committed to connecting the world.
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