

UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR ICT AND DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT

Room DC2-1442, One United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y., 10017 Telephone: (1-212) 963-5796 Fax: (1-917) 367-4340 E-mail address: gaid@un-gaid.org Website address: www.un-gaid.org



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Dear colleague,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in an open consultation on the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (UNDESA-GAID) which will be hosted by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) on 23 February 2009, from 13:30 to 14:45 at in room K1, Montbrilliant building, ITU Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting will be chaired by Mr. Houlin Zhao, Deputy Secretary-General of ITU, and moderated by Dr. William Drake, Director for the Information Revolution and Global Governance Project at the Graduate Institute for International Studies.

The consultation, which is a follow-up to the previous one held last May (summary attached), will focus on themes identified by members of the UNDESA-GAID constituencies during extensive online discussions. After several weeks of fruitful exchanges, the following issues have been the most salient and will form the basis of the agenda of the consultation:

- Communication and transparency within UNDESA-GAID
- Work programme and substantive focus of UNDESA-GAID
- Partnerships and institutional relationships

This list is not exhaustive. Please feel free to suggest or raise additional points, either by contacting me, through the online discussion and social network at http://un-gaid.ning.com/ or at the consultation itself. For those who will not be able to join the meeting in person, remote participation via conference call will be possible at the numbers +1 212 963 9806 and +1 212 963 9810. For more details, please see www.un-gaid.org.

This meeting will be held in conjunction with a the Internet Governance Forum (23-24 February 2009). More information and further details are available at http://www.intgovforum.org/.

Yours sincerely,

Sarbuland Khan

Executive Coordinator