

14th October, 2026

Ref.:103/10/ATU/DC/CIR-2026

To: ATU Member States, Associate Members, and Partners

Excellencies, Distinguished Representatives,

Re: Invitation to the ATU Telecommunications/ICT Day 2026 Commemoration and Innovation Awards in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 7th December 2026

Greetings from the African Telecommunications Union (ATU)!

The General Secretariat is pleased to invite you to the commemoration of the 49th ATU Telecommunications/ICT Day, which will take place in Harare, Zimbabwe, on Monday, 7th December 2026, in partnership with the Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ). As per our letter Ref: 012/07/ATU/CIR/PC-2026 29th July 2026, this year's commemoration will be convened under the theme "Digital Lifelines: Broadband for Every Household in Africa," approved by the 27th Ordinary Session of the ATU Administrative Council.

Observed each year on 7th December, ATU Day provides a moment for the Union's membership and the wider telecommunications and digital sector to reflect on a priority that requires continental attention and to connect that discussion to national action. The 2026 theme places the household at the centre of the connectivity agenda, with attention to the availability, affordability, reliability and meaningful use of broadband services.

As part of the ATU Day programme, there will be the continental awards of the fifth ATU Africa Innovation Challenge. Launched on 15th September 2026 and currently open for applications until 31st October 2026, the Challenge is inviting academic innovation ecosystems in ATU Member States to present the artificial intelligence-based software solutions emerging from their institutions. The finalists will come together in Harare on 7th December, where three winning ecosystems will share a USD 60,000 prize pool.

We welcome Member States, Associate Members, partners and interested institutions to join us in Harare, and we encourage you to share the ongoing Challenge, which is accessible via the link <https://atuuat.africa/atu-innovation-challenge-2026/>, with eligible universities, technical and vocational institutions, research institutions and other academic innovation ecosystems within your sway before the application window closes.

Member States are encouraged, to further observe the Day at national level, through activities and dialogues aligned with this year's theme, to highlight the role of ICTs as instruments to the achievement of meaningful connectivity for all in Africa. The Secretary General's message for the day and also logistical information is attached for your use.

The detailed programme will be circulated as preparations with POTRAZ progress. It would give us great pleasure to welcome your delegation and other national institutions and sector representatives to Harare for this year's commemoration.

Sincerely,



John Omo
Secretary General



Encl; SGs message for the ATU Day and Logistical Information