



UN names young leaders to Global Coalition for digital technologies and Development

United Nations, 07 APRIL – The United Nations appointed today ten young peoples from around the world to a Committee of eLeaders for ICT and Youth to help support its efforts in promoting the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) to eradicate poverty and advance development.

The “Committee of e-Leaders for ICT and Youth” is composed of one regional youth representative from each region and other selected successful youth leaders from various fields. It will work under the United Nations Global Alliance for Information Technologies and Development, of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA-GAID), and will report to the Strategy Council and Steering Committee of GAID.

“The eLeaders for ICT and Youth are dedicated young professionals who have made a real impact in the ICT-for-development field in their countries and region” said, Sarbuland Khan, the Executive Coordinator of UNDESA-GAID. “We look forward to working with them on exciting initiatives and programmes, particularly for youth, in support of the United Nations on harnessing information and communication technologies for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals”.

The eLeaders for ICT and Youth will oversee and coordinate the work of the Global Youth Coalition/Network for ICT. The Coalition provides a venue for young peoples to share knowledge and experiences on ICT-for-development and youth issues.

The eLeaders will help in bringing multi-stakeholders such as governments, the private sector, the media and civil society together. They will help create youth networks in the regions; develop and implement regional work programmes of the Global Youth Coalition on ICT for development in education, health, governance and entrepreneurship. They will also promote awareness and advocacy campaigns, through multimedia, on regional ICT-for-development initiatives, and the objectives of GAID through outreach with young people, governments, business leaders, civil society, academic institutions and technology communities.

The Coalition will support the agenda of the United Nations on harnessing information and communication technologies (ICT) for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

They newly appointed eLeaders for ICT are: Manar Al-Hashash, Founder and General Manager of Dot Design; Hugo Berkeley, Director NormalLife Pictures; Jennifer Corriero, Executive Director of TakingITGlobal; Patrick Cosgrave, Founder & CEO Rock the Vote Ireland & My Candidate; Natasha Ghent-Rodriguez, UN Foundation; Armen Orujyan, President and Chairman of the Board of ATHGO; Rajiv Ramakrishan, Brandeis University; Ran Ren, ITU Fellow; Gbenga Sesan, ITU Fellow; Johan Khairuddin, Head of Youth Dynamics, ASTRO plc. A representative from La Francophonie remained to be appointed.

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