MEDIA RELEASE

Now that I have an accessible device – how do I use it?

Brussels, 2 Dec 2021: The International Day of Persons with Disabilities reminds us that even though we might have a device with a lot of accessibility features – knowing how to use and customize these features remains a challenge for many.

The Global Accessibility Reporting Initiative's (GARI) mission is to help people find accessible devices best suited to their needs and requirements. After completing user surveys GARI is pleased to announce the availability of short videos aimed at helping people activate and customize the features to make the device even more useful.

"These videos help people use their devices better. They can help with hearing, vision, or cognitive impairments." said Mr. Michael Milligan, Secretary General of the Mobile & Wireless Forum (MWF), who run the GARI project.

In these videos users can learn how to activate and customize vibrating alerts and flashlight notifications, use noise cancelling or magnification, how to invert colors and use speech-to-text. A collection of the videos for both iOS and Android phones are available on the GARI YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvwTMEqvWD3BWx2tmxYGDUA.

Mr. Milligan said "today's devices offer a multitude of functionalities that can help users access content and services, as well as the environment around them. The challenge is in knowing how to setup and customise these functions to maximise their usefulness."

"We hope that with these videos GARI can further assist people not only in finding the best device for their needs, but also making it work best for them" added Mr. Milligan.

ENDS

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About the Mobile & Wireless Forum (MWF):
The Mobile & Wireless Forum (MWF) established the Global Accessibility Reporting Initiative (GARI) in 2008 to provide information on the accessibility features within mobile phones and to help consumers identify devices that supported those features. Today, GARI features an online database where you can find information on the accessibility features in over 1,500 devices including mobile phones, tablets, Smart TVs and Wearables. You'll also find information on accessibility apps that work on these devices. The database is free to use, available online in 20+ languages and is used by governments, user organizations, telecom providers and many other stakeholders around the world.

More information about GARI: www.gari.info & @GARIupdates
More information about the MWF: www.mwfai.org