

# INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



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**Date:** **Page 1/4** **Ref:** DM-139

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**Subject: ITU Regional Cybersecurity Forum for Africa and Arab States in Tunis, Tunisia, 4-5 June 2009**

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), we would like to invite you to participate in the **ITU Regional Cybersecurity Forum for Africa and Arab States** to be held on 4 and 5 June 2009 in Tunis, Tunisia. The event is held in conjunction with the 2009 ITU Regional Development Forum for Arab States (1-3 June 2009), and jointly organized by ITU and the National Agency for Computer Security (ANSI), Tunisia.

The ITU Regional Cybersecurity Forum for Africa and Arab States, dedicated to "**Connecting the World Responsibly**", aims to identify some of the main challenges faced by countries in Africa and Arab States in enhancing cybersecurity and securing critical information infrastructures. It will consider best practices, information sharing mechanisms and concrete actions for cybersecurity development, taking into consideration the key principles of matching the borderless, transnational nature of cyber-threats with meeting specific national and regional requirements. The Forum will consider initiatives at the regional and international levels to increase cooperation and coordination amongst different stakeholders.

The forum programme will include interactive sessions on the projects and related tools that ITU is working on to assist Member States in developing and implementing cybersecurity capabilities. Capacity building activities will be undertaken in the following main areas:

- Development of a legal framework;
- Development of watch and warning and incident management capabilities, including the establishment of a national computer incident response team (CIRT); and,
- Actions to be considered when developing a national cybersecurity strategy and harmonization within the key principles of international cooperation.

The event is expected to bring together government representatives, industry actors, and other stakeholder groups from countries on the African continent and the Arab States to discuss, share

information, and collaborate on the elaboration and implementation of national policy, regulatory and enforcement frameworks for cybersecurity. It will benefit information and communication policy makers from ministries and government departments; institutions and departments dealing with cybersecurity policies, legislation and enforcement; and representatives from operators, manufacturers, service providers, industry and consumer associations involved in promoting a culture of cybersecurity.

The workshop will be conducted in **English, Arabic and French** with simultaneous interpretation. Participation in the Forum is open to all ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, and other interested stakeholders, including representatives from regional and international organizations. A draft forum timetable is enclosed and more detailed information about the event, including on registration, fellowship and meeting schedule is found in the annexes. Additional information is also available on the event website at [www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2009/tunis/](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2009/tunis/). We encourage you to consult this website before the event.

We look forward to your active participation and invaluable contribution to this event.

Yours faithfully,

*[Original Signed]*

Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid  
Director

**Annexes: 2**

## Annex I

### Pre-Registration and Fellowship Applications

Forum participation is open to all ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates in Africa and the Arab States, and other interested stakeholders, including representatives from regional and international organizations.

We are pleased to inform you that ITU will provide one fellowship for each eligible delegation duly authorized by their respective ITU Administration in least developed countries (LDCs) in the Africa region and Arab States, subject to available budget, for participating in this meeting. The fellowship includes an economy class air return ticket and subsistence allowance for the duration of the event. The fellowships are primarily targeted at ICT Ministries. The fellowship applicants should themselves meet the cost of any additional charges related to, but not limited to, transit nights and entry visa fees.

Please send in your sponsored nominees before **10 May 2009** using the online Fellowship Request Form.

**The meeting pre-registration and fellowship request form can be found at [www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2009/tunis/registration/](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2009/tunis/registration/)**

The number of delegates from each country participating in the meeting is not limited but each additional delegate will have to bear the full costs of his/her participation. Ideally a country would send representatives reflecting the major functions in cybersecurity referenced in the bulleted points above. It is expected that each delegation be familiar with their national cybersecurity-related initiatives.

**Pre-registrations should be made as soon as possible, but not later than 22 May 2009.**

Countries requiring assistance to attend the meeting should contact Mr. Miloud Ameziane in the ITU Arab Regional Office in Cairo, Egypt on telephone: +202 3537 1777 or e-mail: [miloud.ameziane@itu.int](mailto:miloud.ameziane@itu.int) or Mr Brahima Sanou in the ITU Africa Regional Office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on telephone: +251 11 551 4977 or e-mail: [brahima.sanou@itu.int](mailto:brahima.sanou@itu.int) with copy to [cybmail@itu.int](mailto:cybmail@itu.int). Additional information about the event can also be provided by Ms. Christine Sund, ICT Applications and Cybersecurity Division (e-mail: [christine.sund@itu.int](mailto:christine.sund@itu.int)).

### Contributions

Electronic contributions to the meeting on national cybersecurity experiences are solicited. We encourage you to send these contributions to [cybmail@itu.int](mailto:cybmail@itu.int) before **22 May 2009**.

### Draft Forum Agenda

The full agenda with a short description of the content of each session can be found at [www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2009/tunis/agenda.html](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2009/tunis/agenda.html)

### Practical Information for Meeting Participants

Practical information for participants is available at [www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2009/tunis/practical-information.html](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2009/tunis/practical-information.html)

## Annex II

### Draft Timetable

#### ITU Regional Cybersecurity Forum for Africa and Arab States

4-5 June 2009

Tunis, Tunisia

<b>THURSDAY 4 JUNE 2009</b>	
08:30–09:30	Meeting Registration and Badging (Online pre-registration required)
09:30–10:00	Meeting Opening and Welcoming Address
10:00–11:15	Session 1: Setting The Stage – Towards an Integrated Approach for Cybersecurity and Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP)
11:15–11:30	Coffee Break
11:30–13:00	Session 2: The ITU Way – Mapping the Global Issue with National and Regional Needs
13:00–14:30	Lunch
14:30–15.45	Session 3: Cybersecurity in the National Agenda and Actions to be Considered in Developing a National Cybersecurity Strategy
15:45–16:00	Coffee/Tea Break
16:00–17:15	Session 4: Concrete Actions to Foster Regional and International Cooperation
17:15–17:30	Daily Wrap-Up and Announcements
19:00–	Reception (TBD)

<b>FRIDAY 5 JUNE 2009</b>	
09:30–10:45	Session 5: Developing a Legal Foundation and Establishing Effective Enforcement
10:45–11:00	Coffee/Tea Break
11:00–12:45	Session 6: Elaborating on Technical Solutions for Resiliency of Information and Communication Networks
12:45–14:00	Lunch
14:00–15:30	Session 7: Defining Sound Organizational Structures and Developing Incident Management Capabilities
15:30–15:45	Coffee/Tea Break
15:45–17:00	Session 8: Promoting a Culture of Cybersecurity through Innovative Partnerships
17:00–17:30	Session 9: Forum Wrap-Up, Recommendations and the Way Forward