

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



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Ref:

To: **All Official Registration Authorities**

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Subject Deployment of Registration Authorities (RAs)

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Dear Sir/Madam,

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on behalf of the partnership would like to use this opportunity to thank all the official Registration Authorities for their continuing support and participation in the project.

Since your organization applied to operate as a Registration Authority, much progress has been made on this complex project involving state of the art technologies with world-class security and international legislation. Since signing of the ITU-WISeKey Partnership Agreement on 17 May 1999 over 7 million dollars have been invested in the EC-DC project by WISeKey and its partners and an International Conference was organized in November last year with the participation of some 120 countries (including more than 100 developing and least developed countries).

Following testing of the system under pilot conditions for several months, I am pleased to inform you that the core of the final infrastructure, being the EcommercePKI Certification Authority, **has now been commissioned and is fully operational**. In addition, the legal and policy requirements necessary for the proper conduct of the Certification Authority have been finalized. With this Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) in place and operational, certified users from both developing and industrialized countries will be able to communicate securely, conduct business transactions in a secure and trusted manner and run other e-services such as e-government, e-health and e-learning.

This is extremely significant because it means that we are now ready to commence the deployment of the Registration Authorities and start issuing digital certificates in full operational mode.

To respond to the ever growing demand for participation from developing countries and to address the financial and human resources requirements considering our limited resources, we have been working on putting together a more inclusive organizational model to allow more actors to participate, extend the framework for collaboration and provide a more structured approach where developing countries will play a more active role in building the global information society and in bridging the digital divide.

I am therefore also pleased to inform you that ITU is in the process of finalizing the new and broader framework for collaboration in building trust and secure infrastructure in developing countries through a Memorandum of Understanding entitled:

“Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the Creation of a Technology Neutral Platform and Non-Exclusive Framework for Contributions to ICT Deployment and Use in Developing Countries (WorldETrust MoU)”

The WorldETrust MoU will be presented to ITU Member States, to potential donor countries, funding organizations and industry partners. Once your Government has become a signatory, we will instruct WISeKey to assist you with the set-up of a Registration Authority and active deployment of the project in your country. ITU and its partnership will seek international contributions to fund the deployment of the infrastructure in disadvantaged areas of the world. The Industry Expert Group will assist RAs to develop appropriate business models and strategies to render the project financially viable in order to reach sustainability in the shortest possible period.

In this respect, I again thank you for your support and participation in this innovative model of cooperation for the global deployment this ITU-lead initiative.

Sincerely,



Hamadoun I. TOURÉ
Director