

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



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To: All Member States of the Union
National Regulatory Authorities
All ITU-D Sector Members
Other Invited Industry Leaders

Fax: List attached

Contact: Jean-Yves Besnier, Head
Partnership Promotion & Membership Division

For your reply:

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Subject: 1st Annual Global Industry Leaders Forum (GILF)

10 March 2008, Pattaya, Thailand

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the first annual Global Industry Leaders Forum organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in collaboration with the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology and the National Telecommunications Commission of Thailand. The Forum will be held at the Pattaya Exhibition and Convention Hall (PEACH) which is located in the Royal Cliff Beach Resort, Pattaya, Thailand, on Monday 10 March 2008.

This first Forum for industry leaders is organized the day before the opening of the Global Symposium of Regulators (11-13 March) to which the ITU Sector Members have also been invited to participate on Tuesday 11 March 2008.

The GILF is an annual event which aims at facilitating the dialogue between industry and policy makers and regulators on pertinent issues that currently prevent or slower down ICT and telecommunication investment in developing and least developed countries.

Programme

The GILF programme has been designed to complement and reinforce that of the GSR. The GILF programme has been organized around three main sessions: 1) universal access and innovative and sustainable models to facilitate ICT/telecommunication access to low income populations; 2) breaking the barriers for emergency communications, and 3) key success factors to stimulate investment and business expansion. The format will favour interactive debates and panel discussions rather than formal presentations.

Panel Participation

Participants wishing to participate as a panelist in one of the sessions identified in the provisional programme attached are kindly requested to complete and submit electronically the panelist application form available on the GILF 2008 website at <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/Partners/GILF/2008> by 13 January 2008. A committee will make a final selection of panel participants, and those selected will be informed of this decision by 21 January 2008.

Documents

In the spirit of efficiency and in light of budgetary limitations facing the ITU as a whole, the GILF like the GSR, will rely on Web transmission of documents. Documents will not be provided in paper form. The documents, and other information, can be downloaded from the GILF website <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/partners/GILF/2008>.

Sponsorship and Exhibition

To support the organization of the GILF, ITU is seeking sponsors. Each sponsor will have the opportunity to showcase their activities related to the themes of the GILF and GSR near the entrance of the main sessions. For more information, please contact Mr. Jean-Yves Besnier at + 41 22 730 5591 or Mr. Christopher Clark at +41 22 730 6310. Alternatively, you may send an email to GILF08@itu.int.

General information

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided throughout the meeting in the six official languages of the ITU (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish and Russian).

You will find enclosed the meeting registration form. You are kindly requested to return the registration form by 1 February 2008. All other logistical information can be found on the GILF 2008 website. Please note that in order to obtain the hotel rate indicated in the attachment, bookings must be made by 25 January 2008 (see annex).

Please also note that participants shall cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.

In order to ensure that your visa is processed in time for the meeting, I encourage you to follow the visa instructions available on the practical information note attached.

I hope that you will be able to participate and make a valuable contribution to the Global Industry Leaders Forum.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed by Mr. Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid, Director]

Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid
Director

Annexes

- Annex 1: Provisional Programme
- Annex 2: Registration Form
- Annex 3: Panel Participation Form
- Annex 4: Practical Information
- Annex 5: Hotel Booking Form
- Annex 6: Hotel Booking Deadlines and Cancellation Policy.