

Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

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BDT/AMRO/C/___/2017

Brasilia, 9 May 2017

To:

- ITU Member States;
- ITU-D Sector Members, Associates and Academia;
- Regional organizations in the Americas region;
- National Regulatory Authorities of ITU Member States.
- Subject: ITU Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs, and ITU Regional Forum on Inter-connectivity & Reduction of telecommunication service prices and Internet access cost, México, 20-22 September 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to the ITU Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs- 20 to 21 September 2017, and the Regional Forum on Inter-connectivity & Reduction of telecommunication service prices and Internet access cost – 22 September 2017, to be held in Mexico City, Mexico. These activities are organized by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), in close collaboration with the Federal Telecommunications Institute - IFT of Mexico.

All participants are kindly invited to pre-register online for all events by 6 September 2017 at www.itu.int/go/regitud.

The necessary practical information will be published soon at www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/Events.aspx.

The Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICT will focus, among other interesting subjects, on connecting the unconnected in a digital converged world, the economic and financial issues in a converged broadband environment and the new challenges in the digital ecosystem. Participants are invited to make presentations or participate as panellists to illustrate the situation in their countries on these issues, in order to promote dialogue and exchange of experiences. The provisional agenda is attached as Annex 1.

The Forum on Inter-connectivity & Reduction of telecommunication service prices and Internet access cost will focus on international interconnection, its benefits, the need for international and/or regional interconnection agreements, cases of implementation of national IXPs in the

Region, the role of the regulator, among other subjects. The provisional agenda is attached as Annex 2.

Forums will be conducted in English and Spanish with interpretation. All presentations will be published in their original language on the above-mentioned website. **Participants should enquire in advance concerning visa requirements for Mexico** and apply to the Consulate or Embassy of Mexico in their respective country.

Participants are requested to submit an update of their telecommunication sector scenario, by completing the ITU Tariff Policy Survey at: www.itu.int/ITU-D/icteye/ under Survey Login. For login information (password and username), please contact Ms Carmen Prado-Wagner (tariffs@itu.int).

In order to build on the work carried out and optimize the transfer of knowledge, we strongly recommend that, where possible, organizations designate their Regional Economic and Financial Forum representatives who have expertise and responsibility for costs and tariffs matters.

We are pleased to inform you that one partial fellowship per administration will be awarded, subject to available funding, to facilitate the participation from Least Developed or Low Income Developing Countries of the Americas Region. A fellowship application must be authorized by the relevant Administration of the ITU Member State. Fellowship requests must be returned to ITU not later than 22 August 2017.

Mr Rodrigo Robles (rodrigo.robles@itu.int) from the ITU Area Office in Tegucigalpa and Pablo Palacios (pablo.palacios@itu.int) from the ITU Area Office in Santiago are at your disposal. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact them.

I look forward to your participation in this event.

Yours faithfully,

Bruno Ramos Americas Regional Director

Annex 1: Provisional Agenda ITU Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs Annex 2: Provisional Agenda ITU Regional Forum on Inter-connectivity & Reduction of telecommunication service prices and Internet access cost.