



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/IEE/RME/DM/381

Geneva, 3 December 2013

To:

- ITU Member States;
- ITU-D Sector Members;
- National Regulatory Authorities of ITU Member States in Africa

Subject: **ITU/BDT Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs for Africa, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, 3 - 4 February 2014**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs for Africa (Former Seminar on Costs and Tariffs), organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in collaboration with the Regulatory Agency for Post and Electronic Communications (ARPCE) at the Hotel Ledger Plaza, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, from 3 to 4 February 2014.

A meeting of the Study Group 3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3RG-AFR) organized by the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) will follow the Forum from 5 to 6 February 2014. The invitation for this meeting has been sent separately. Participants are invited to pre-register for both events by 17 December 2013. Pre-registration to these meetings is carried out online on the event website. Delegate on-site registration will begin at 14:00 hours on 2nd February.

Participants are requested to submit in advance an update of their telecommunication sector scenario, by updating the Tariff Policy Survey at: www.itu.int/ITU-D/icteye/. For login information (password and username), please contact BDT at: tariffs@itu.int.

Information concerning these meetings is available online at: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regulatory-Market/Pages/default.aspx>. Please follow the visa instructions available in the Information Note to avoid delays.

The contact person in Brazzaville is Mr Luc MISSIDIMBAZI, Coordinator at the Ultra-High-Speed Broadband Markets Unit, ARPCE, tel: +242 05 512 0707, e-mail: Luc.Missidimbazi@arpce.cg.

As mentioned in the [TSB invitation letter](#), one partial fellowship per administration/country will be awarded to facilitate the participation of Least Developed or Low Income Countries in the Africa region (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/info/Documents/ldc-lic-201111.pdf>). An application for fellowship must be authorized by the relevant Administration of the ITU Member State. **Please download the fellowship application form at <http://www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-COL/en>** and return it to ITU not later than 23 December 2013.

In order to build on work in progress and optimize transfer of knowledge, I strongly recommend that, where possible, organizations designate an official who has the expertise and responsibility for matters of costs and tariffs or register their TSB SG3RG-AFR representative to attend this forum. Both meetings will be conducted in English and French and interpretation will be provided.

I have enclosed the provisional agenda for your information, and I look forward to your participation in this event.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annex: Provisional agenda



**ITU/BDT Regional Economic and Financial Forum of
Telecommunications/ICT for Africa**

**Forum Régional de l'UIT/BDT sur les aspects économiques et
financiers des Télécommunications/TIC pour l'Afrique**

Brazzaville, République du Congo du 3 au 4 Février 2014

Provisionnel programme / Programme provisoire

Day 1 / Jour 1	
08.00 – 08.45	<i>Delegate registration / Enregistrement des délégués</i>
09.00 – 09.30	<p><i>Opening Ceremony / Cérémonie d'ouverture</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Secretary General, African Telecommunications Union (ATU)</i> • <i>Chairman / Président SG3RG-AFR</i> • <i>International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Representative</i> • <i>Autorité de Régulation des Postes et des Communications Electroniques (ARPCE), République du Congo</i>
<i>Coffee break and Group picture / Pause Café et photo de groupe</i>	
10.30 – 11.30	Session 1: <i>The impact of the development of Internet and OTT on voice services (voice decline? New services?) / L'impact du développement de l'Internet et des OTT sur la voix (déclin de la voix? nouveaux services?)</i>
11.30 – 12.30	Session 2 : <i>Submarine cable: Organization and operation of a consortium : Agreement for construction and maintenance of a system / Câble sous-marin : Organisation et fonctionnement d'un consortium, Accord de construction et de maintenance d'un système</i>
<i>Lunch / Pause déjeuner</i>	
14.00 – 15.00	Session 3 : <i>IP Interconnection charging / Tarification des interconnexions IP</i>
15.00 – 16.00	Session 4 : <i>Costing and tariffs policies in the region / Coûts et politiques tarifaires dans la région</i>
<i>Coffee break / Pause Café</i>	
16.30 – 17.30	Session 5 : <i>Implementation and management of Internet Exchange Points (IXP) / Mise en œuvre et gestion des points d'Echange Internet (IXP)</i>
Day 2 / Jour 2	
09.00 – 10.00	Session 6 : <i>NGN regulation and licensing regime in Africa – best practices / Réglementation des NGN et régime de licences en Afrique - les meilleures pratiques</i>
<i>Coffee break / Pause café</i>	
10.30 – 11.30	Session 7 : <i>Price regulation of unbundled services (fixed and mobile Broadband) / Régulation des prix des services dégroupés (Large bande fixe et mobile)</i>
11.30 – 12.30	Session 8 : <i>Costing methodology for Roaming services / Méthodologie de coût pour les services de roaming</i>

<i>Lunch / Pause déjeuner</i>	
14.00 – 15.00	Session 9 : Internet: comparative studies on access prices between developed and developing countries / <i>Internet : études comparatives sur les prix d'accès entre pays développés et en développement</i>
<i>Coffee break / Pause-café</i>	
15.30 – 16.30	Session 10 : Monitoring the implementation of national Broadband plans / <i>Suivi de la mise en œuvre de plans nationaux large bande</i>
16.30 – 17.00	Concluding Remarks and Closing / <i>Conclusions et clôture</i>
5-6 February 2014	Meeting of the TSB Study Group 3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3RG-AFR) / <i>Réunion du Groupe régional de la Commission d'études 3 du TSB pour l'Afrique (SG3RG-AFR)</i>