

The Secretary-General

Geneva, 15 May 2012

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To

Member States, Sector Members
and Associates of ITU

Rio+20 Delegates

Subject: Invitation to attend an event hosted by ITU and the Ministry of Communications of Brazil during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20)

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is our pleasure to extend an invitation to you to join us at our joint event "*Broadband and ICTS for smart, inclusive and sustainable societies*" taking place in the context of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and to be held in Rio Parque dos Atletas on Tuesday, 19 June 2012, from 15:00 to 18.30.

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are cross-cutting drivers of sustainable development and they are critical to fully integrate the three pillars. ICTs advance social equity and progress, enable sustainable economic growth and reinforce environmental protection.

Through appropriate actions and policies, ICTs can help stimulate sustainable economic transformation and job creation, achieve social goals such as social justice and poverty reduction and build sustainable, "smart" societies, in an systematic, integrative and meaningful way.

Broadband networks are the best example of such innovative technologies. They are a unique cost-effective and inclusive instrument to spur growth, trade and employment, promote social progress and accelerate achievement of the millennium development goals (MDGs), and ensure environmental protection and a sustainable future.

This joint event intends to showcase how information and communication technologies (ICTs), in particular broadband, are a fundamental element of sustainable development.

During the session we will pose a series of questions to stimulate discussion from key players and participants that will help influence RIO delegates negotiations.

Your attendance at this event will help inspire imaginative and innovative approaches for broadband roll-out for a sustainable future and help ensure that Information and Communication technologies are recognized in the Rio+20 outcomes.

We would be very honored if you would accept our invitation. Please register your interest in attending this event at <http://www.itu.int/themes/climate/events/rioplus20/index.html> where you also find further information about this event and other ITU activities at the conference

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

H.E Mr Paulo Bernardo Silva

Minister of Communications

Brazil

(signed)

Dr Hamadoun I. Touré

Secretary-General

ITU