



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref. BDT/IEE/SIS/DM/004

Geneva, 28 January 2015

To:
- Geneva Schools

Subject: Girls in ICT Day Celebrations 23 April 2015

Dear Sir/Dear Madam,

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector remains a growing sector for employment, and a key economic factor underpinning both national and international development. There is an estimated shortfall of over two million skilled ICT professionals worldwide. Highly qualified women in technical fields around the world have significant opportunities available to them. Despite the obvious benefits, many girls never even consider a career in ICT.

International Girls in ICT Day, celebrated around the world on the fourth Thursday of April, is an initiative backed by all ITU Member States to create a global environment that empowers and encourages girls and young women to consider careers in the growing field of ICTs. To date, over 111,000 girls and young women have taken part in 3,500 celebrations of International Girls in ICT Day in 140 countries worldwide. This year, the Day will be celebrated on **23 April 2015**. For more information about this initiative, please visit ITU Girls in ICT Portal at www.girlsinict.org and contact girlsinict@itu.int.

I warmly invite your school to join this global movement to encourage girls and young women to envision their future as ICT creators. This year, ITU is organizing several activities and encouraging all local schools to celebrate International Girls in ICT Day 2015 in Geneva.

- **Girls in ICT Day 2015 event at ITU.** Girls aged 14-18 are invited to attend the Girls in ICT Day event on 23 April 2015 at the ITU headquarters in Geneva.
- **Blogging competition.** Girls aged 14-18 are invited to create blogs and write blog posts on ICT-related topics. Schools will select the winning blog entries, which will be recognized at the ITU event on 23 April 2015.
- **Information Session.** Event at ITU for teachers, academic advisors and interested parents to learn more about the opportunities of the ICT sector and provide guidelines on the blogging competition. The information session will take place on **Wednesday 4 March at ITU**.
- **Girls in ICT Day events in schools.** Events taking place in schools to celebrate Girls in ICT Day 2015 on and around 23 April 2015.

Kindly see the next page for more information about these events and activities. We request that you let us know which of the activities your school will join by completing the attached form and returning it to us by email at girlsiniict@itu.int by 25 February. You are encouraged to participate in as many activities as possible!

We look forward to celebrating International Girls in ICT Day 2015 and reaching out to more girls and young women together with your support.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brahima Sanou', with a stylized, cursive script.

Brahima Sanou
Director