



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/IEE/RME/DM/10

Geneva, 30 January 2015

To:

- ITU Member States;
- ITU-D Sector Members;
- National Regulatory Authorities of ITU Member States in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subject: - **ITU Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs for Latin America and the Caribbean, 21-22 April 2015**
- **Meeting of the SG3RG-LAC, 22-24 April 2015**
Nassau, Bahamas

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to the annual ITU Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs for Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in the British Colonial Hilton Nassau Hotel in Bahamas from 21 to 22 April 2015. This Forum is organized by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau in collaboration with the Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority (URCA) of Bahamas.

From 22 April afternoon to 24 April, the Forum will be followed by the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau's Regional Meeting of the Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC), for which you have received a separate invitation.

All participants are kindly invited to pre-register online for both events by **23 March 2015** at the website: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/EVENTS/2015/0421-BS-Economic.aspx>. All the necessary practical information will be published on this website soon.

The Forum will focus, among other interesting subjects, on Mobile Money (MM) Services; Relevant market definition and significant market power (SMP); approaches and best practices for Broadband costing and pricing (international Internet connectivity, backhaul pricing and last mile); costing methodologies and tariff policies in the region for wholesale and retail telecommunication services and follow up of the discussion on costing methodologies for determining the prices of International Roaming services.

Participants are invited to make presentations or participate as panelists 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 in Annex 1.

The Forum and Meeting 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 Bahamas and apply to the Consulate or Embassy of Bahamas 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 (carmen.prado@itu.int).

In order to build on the work carried out in Study Group 3 and optimize the transfer of knowledge, we strongly recommend that, where possible, organizations designate their SG3RG-LAC Group Representatives or officials who have expertise and responsibility for costs and tariffs matters to attend these events.

We are pleased to inform you that two partial fellowships per administration will be awarded, within the Latin America and the Caribbean region only, subject to available funding, to facilitate participation from Least Developed or Low Income Developing Countries (<http://itu.int/en/ITU-T/info/Pages/resources.aspx>). An application for a fellowship must be authorized by the relevant Administration of the ITU Member State (please see decision criteria to grant a fellowship in the SG3RG-LAC Meeting invitation letter at www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.LAC-COL-0004/en). Fellowship requests must be returned to ITU not later than **9 March 2015**.

I look forward to your participation in this event.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annex 1: Provisional Agenda



**ITU/BDT Regional Economic and Financial Forum of
Telecommunications/ICTs for Latin America and the Caribbean**

***UIT/BDT Foro Regional sobre Economía y Finanzas de
las Telecomunicaciones/TICs para América Latina y el Caribe***

Nassau, Bahamas, 21-22 April/Abril 2015

Preliminary Agenda

Tuesday 21 April / Martes 21 Abril 2015

08.30 – 09.00 **Delegates registration / Registro de Delegados**

09.00 – 09.30 **Opening Ceremony / Ceremonia de Apertura**

- ▶ SG3RG-LAC Chairman / SG3RG-LAC Presidente
- ▶ ITU Representative / Representante de la UIT
- ▶ Chairperson The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA), Bahamas

Chairperson of the Forum / Presidente del Foro: The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA), Bahamas

Coffee break and Group Picture / Café y Foto de Grupo

09.45 – 11.15 **Session 1: Mobile Money (MM) Service oversight by telecommunications regulators / El dinero móvil y su tratamiento regulatorio**

Panelists to be determined / Panelistas a determinarse

11.15 – 12.30 **Session 2: Relevant market definition and identification of operators with significant market power (SMP): methodological aspects and coordination with competition authorities / Definición de mercados e identificación de operadores con PSM: aspectos metodológicos y coordinación con las autoridades de defensa de la competencia**

Panelists to be determined / Panelistas a determinarse

Lunch / Almuerzo

14.00 – 15.00 **Session 3: Broadband costing and pricing (International Internet connectivity, backhaul pricing and last mile) - Approaches and best practices / Costeo de Banda Ancha (Conectividad Internacional de Internet (CII), backhaul y acceso) - Enfoques y mejores prácticas**

Panelists to be determined / Panelistas a determinarse

Coffee break / Café

15.15 – 17.00 **Session 4: Panel Discussion on: Regulatory accounting, costing methodologies and tariff regulation– best practices in the region/ Contabilidad regulatoria, metodologías de costos y regulación tarifarias – mejores prácticas en la región**

Panelists to be determined / Panelistas a determinarse

Wednesday 22 April / Miércoles 22 Abril 2015

09.00 – 09.45 **Session 5:** The future of roaming in view of OTT services: expected impact on usage and prices, timing
/ El futuro del Roaming a la vista de los servicios OTT: impacto esperado en el uso y precios, plazos.

Panelists to be determined / *Panelistas a determinarse*

09.45 – 10.30 **Session 6:** Network Neutrality: best practices and challenges for regulation/ *Neutralidad de red: mejores prácticas y desafíos para la regulación*

Panelists to be determined / *Panelistas a determinarse*

Coffee break / Café

10.45 – 12.15 **Session 7:** Regulatory framework and research on consumer behavior of telecommunications services in Latin America / *Marco reglamentario e investigación sobre el comportamiento de los consumidores de los servicios de telecomunicaciones en América Latina*

Presentation of the results of the ITU/BDT Study

Panelists to be determined / *Panelistas a determinarse*

Lunch / Almuerzo

12.15 – 12.30 **Final conclusions and closing of the Forum / Conclusiones finales y cierre del Foro**

22-24
April/Abril Meeting of ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC) / *Reunión del UIT-T Grupo Regional de la Comisión de Estudio 3 para América Latina y el Caribe (SG3RG-LAC)*