



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

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Geneva, 27 October 2015

To:

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

Subject: **ITU Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs for Africa, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 18-19 January 2016**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite your Organisation to participate in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Regional Economic and Financial Forum of Telecommunications/ICTs for Africa, organized by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in collaboration with the Telecommunication Regulatory Authority of Côte d'Ivoire (ARTCI), at the "Espace Latrille Events" in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from 18 to 19 (morning) January 2016.

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 19 (afternoon) to 21 (morning) January 2016. The invitation for this meeting has been sent separately.

This year the Forum 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.

Prior to the events, participants are requested to submit the latest information on the telecommunication sector market environment, by updating the ITU 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 events is available online at: www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regulatory-Market/Pages/Events2016/Abidjan/home.aspx. Please follow the visa instructions available in the information note to avoid delays. Participants are invited to pre-register online for both events by **18 January 2016** at the event website.

In Abidjan, Mr Guy Michel Kouakou, Economics affairs, Prospective and International Cooperation Director, ARTCI (Tel.: +225 20345880, Mobile: +225 05 97 61 68, E-mail: kouakou.guy-michel@artci.ci) and Ms Régina Fleur Bessou Assoumou, Head of International Cooperation Department, ARTCI (Tel.: +225 20344265 /20345880, Fax: +225 20344375, E-mail: bessou.regina@artci.ci) are at your disposal for any query you may have.

As mentioned in the [TSB invitation letter](#), two partial fellowships per Administration will be awarded by TSB, within the Africa Region only, subject to available funding, to facilitate the participation of Least Developed

or Low Income Countries (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 www.itu.int/md/T13-SG3RG.AFR-COL-0004/en and return it to ITU no later than **16 November 2015**.

In order to build on work in progress and optimize transfer of knowledge, Organizations are urged to designate, where possible, an official with expertise in and responsibility for matters of costs and tariffs, or register their ITU-T SG3RG-AFR representative to attend this forum. Both meetings will be conducted in English and French and interpretation will be provided.

The provisional agenda is annexed for your information.

We look forward to your participation in this event.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annex: provisional agenda



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

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

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 18-19 January / janvier 2016

Preliminary Programme / Programme provisoire

Monday 18 January / Lundi 18 janvier	
08.00 – 09.00	Delegate registration / Enregistrement des délégués
09.00 – 09.30	Opening Ceremony / Cérémonie d'ouverture - Chairman SG3RG-AFR / Président du SG3RG-AFR - Representative of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) / Représentant de l'Union internationale des télécommunications - Representative of the Telecommunication Regulatory Authority of Cote d'Ivoire / Représentant de l'Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications/TIC de Côte d'Ivoire (ARTCI) Forum Président/Chairman
Coffee break and Group picture / Pause café et photo de groupe	
10.00 – 12.30	<u>Session 1: Connecting the unconnected in a digital converged world / Connecter les non-connectés dans un monde de convergence numérique</u> Innovative Investment Models in a Converged World / Modèles d'investissements novateurs dans un monde de convergence Implementing Internet Exchange Points (IXP) and impact on international transit: case of Côte d'Ivoire / Mise en œuvre de point d'échange Internet (IXP) et impact sur le transit international: cas de la Côte d'Ivoire LET'S ROAM THE WORLD - the ITU Initiative / UN MONDE PLACÉ SOUS LE SIGNE DE L'ITINÉRANCE - l'initiative de l'UIT Presentations : - The ITU Initiative and International Mobile Roaming (IMR) Strategic Guidelines / Initiatives de l'UIT et lignes directrices stratégiques sur IMR - The Economics of International Mobile Roaming: the ITU NRAs cost methodology and online tool / Les aspects économiques de l'itinérance mobile internationale: la méthodologie de calcul des coûts pour les ARNs et la plateforme en ligne de l'UIT Panelists to be confirmed.
Lunch / Pause déjeuner	
14.00 – 17.00	<u>Session 2: Economic and financial issues in a converged broadband environment / Questions économiques et financières dans un environnement convergent de large bande</u> Economic and financial aspects of spectrum allocation / Aspects économiques et financiers de l'attribution du spectre Costing methodologies and tariff policies / Méthodologies de calcul des coûts et politiques tarifaires Economic and Financial Challenges / Défis économiques et financiers : - Price wars: Predatory pricing in the mobile market / La guerre des prix : tarifs abusifs sur le marché mobile

o Alternative calling procedures, fraud, counterfeit / <i>Procédures d'appels alternatifs, fraude, contrefaçon</i> Panelists to be confirmed.	
Tuesday 19 January / Mardi 19 janvier	
09.00 – 12.15	Session 3: Challenges in the Digital Ecosystem / Défis dans l'écosystème numérique • Technology trends and new business models in a smart connected world – how this impacts regulation / <i>Tendances technologiques et nouveaux modèles d'affaires dans un monde connecté intelligent – Impact sur la régulation</i> • The impact of taxation on the digital economy / <i>Impact de la taxation dans l'économie numérique</i> • Challenges and strategies for the development of Mobile Money Services / <i>Défis et stratégies de développement des services financiers mobiles</i> Panelists to be confirmed.
12.15 – 12.30	Concluding Remarks and Closing by the Chairman of the Forum / Conclusions et clôture par le Président du Forum
<i>Lunch / Pause déjeuner</i>	
19-21 January/janvier 2016	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>