



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: Circular BDT/PKM/HCB/004

Geneva, 22 May 2018

Administrations of ITU Member States
National Regulatory Authorities
ITU-D Sector Members
ITU-affiliated academic and research institutes
ITU Centres of Excellence

Subject: Launch of the selection process for the ITU Centres of Excellence (CoE) network for the cycle 2019-2022

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am writing to inform you that the mandate of the current Centres of Excellence (CoEs) that were established in accordance with decisions of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-14), is coming to an end on 31 December 2018.

In light of the above, I am pleased to formally launch the selection process for the next four-year CoE cycle, which will start in January 2019 and end in December 2022. Applications from interested institutions are being invited. **The deadline for submission of applications is 15 July 2018.**

Any institution interested in becoming an ITU Centre of Excellence is welcome to apply. Prospective CoEs must obtain endorsement of the ITU Member administration in their respective countries of operation before submitting their application form. Current CoEs are encouraged to apply and such applications will be treated on an equal footing with new applications received.

In preparation for this, the *Operational Procedures and Processes for the ITU Centres of Excellence Network* document and the application form were substantially revised to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the network, taking into account the experiences learned during the four years of the current cycle. The revised document and the application form together with the list of priority areas, as adopted by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17), are available in 6 languages on the ITU Academy website at <http://academy.itu.int>.

Any questions related to the selection and application process should be directed to the Human Capacity Building Division, ITU/BDT (telephone: +41 22 730 6315; e-mail: hcbmail@itu.int).

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to the ITU membership for supporting our work in the areas of capacity building and in particular that of the Centres of Excellence during the past four years.

I look forward to our continued collaboration in the coming years.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Cc: ITU Regional Directors