



**Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/PKM/HCB/DM/004

Geneva, 19 January 2018

To: All Centres of Excellence

**Subject: Flexibility for Centres of Excellence in the delivery of trainings in new and emerging topics**

Dear Sir/Madam,

During the 2017 meetings of the Centres of Excellence (CoE) Steering Committee that were recently held in all the regions, requests were made to allow flexibility for existing CoEs to deliver training in new and emerging topics that are not currently covered by any of the existing Centres.

In light of this request, beginning 2018 current Centres of Excellence may provide training under the banner of the Centres of Excellence in new and emerging topics provided that these are not currently assigned to one or more of the existing Centres of Excellence. For clarity, new and emerging topics are those related to Digital Transformation 4.0, which covers areas such as Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, etc.

I am pleased to inform you that the Operational Processes and Procedures document for new Centres of Excellence is currently undergoing review to incorporate your feedback on various issues including this one, in preparation for the next CoE cycle that runs from 2019.

In order to ensure proper coordination in the conduct of such additional training activities, Centres of Excellence that intend to run courses in any of these new areas in 2018 are requested to express their intentions to do so through their respective ITU Regional Focal Points as soon as possible. The Regional Focal Points will in turn liaise with the Steering Committee Chairs before adding these courses to the 2018 Action Plan.

Please note that, the Human Capacity Building Division within the Projects and Knowledge Management department is at your disposal should you need assistance in the implementation of this decision and can be contacted at [hcbmail@itu.int](mailto:hcbmail@itu.int).

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for your great work in 2017 and to wish you all, a Happy 2018.

Yours sincerely,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou  
Director BDT