



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

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Geneva, 7 June 2018

Administrations of ITU Member States,
Regulators, ITU-D Sector Members and
Academia members from Africa Region

Subject: ITU Annual Regional Human Capacity Building Workshop on: “Strengthening capacities in Internet governance in Africa”, Abuja, Nigeria 27-29 August 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite your organization to the ITU annual regional human capacity building workshop for Africa to be held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 27-29 August 2018. The workshop is organized by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau in partnership with DiploFoundation and kindly hosted by the Digital Bridge Institute (DBI) of Nigeria.

The main objective of these annual workshops is to provide a platform for countries from the Africa region to share experiences, strengthen their knowledge and raise awareness on matters concerned with the theme selected for the year through a multi-stakeholder approach involving representatives from government, academia, ICT/telecoms regulators and ministries, industry, civil society, NGOs and other organizations. These workshops also provide the opportunity for professionals dealing with capacity building and skills development to interact with those dealing with policies, management, planning and development.

This year's theme of the workshop is **“Strengthening capacities in Internet governance in Africa”**. This corresponds to the outcomes of the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) 2017, where ITU Member States agreed that capacity building of the ITU membership in international Internet governance is one of the priority issues to be addressed by ITU's capacity building programme.

More specifically, the objectives of the workshop are to strengthen capacities of the ITU membership in the field of Internet governance, involving different stakeholders in the delivery of the workshop, and to provide a general overview of key aspects related to international Internet governance discussions.

The workshop will therefore be broad in scope, covering a multitude of Internet governance related aspects, including:

- Internet governance in a changing environment brought by automation and the digital transformation,
- Priorities in capacity development in Internet governance for ICT policy makers, regulators, telecom operators, and academia from the African region, and

- Issues on cybersecurity, privacy and data protection in the digital age as well as aspects of human rights.

This workshop is the second in a series of regional Internet governance capacity development events that ITU is organizing in collaboration with other stakeholders. The experience from these workshops will feed into the further development of ITU's capacity development and training programmes in the field of Internet governance, which are offered under the umbrella of the ITU Academy.

This year's workshop is organized in partnership with DiploFoundation, an internationally recognized lead entity in the field of Internet governance capacity development. Representatives from other global and regional bodies working in the field of Internet governance will actively participate in the workshop.

The meeting will be paperless. Participants are therefore invited to download and print the needed documents before and during the event. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French during the meeting.

Documents related to the event, including the draft agenda, registration form, visa requirements, hotel reservation and other practical information for participants, will be posted at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Capacity-Building/Pages/events/2018/Internet%20Governance/AFR/Internetgovernance.aspx>

In order to benefit from the preferential hotel rates negotiated by the national coordinator for this event, participants are requested to complete the form available at the event website and return it directly to the selected hotel, with a copy to Mr Clinton O Martins e-mail: cmartins@dbieducation.org

The host country will provide transportation between the airport and hotels, and between the hotels and the workshop venue, and vice versa, for all delegates. To facilitate the planning and coordination of airport transfers, delegates are requested to fax or email the same form, indicating their flight numbers, dates and times (both arrival and departure) to Mr Clinton O Martins (Tel: +234 8169876997, +234 8109349400; e-mail: cmartins@dbieducation.org) with a copy to Ms Oumou Niang (Tel: +221 33 859 70 10/21, fax: +221 33 868 63 86; e-mail: oumou.niang@itu.int).

Although there is no participation fee for this workshop, please note that all expenses concerning travel, accommodation and meals should be covered by participants.

Mr Marcelino Tayob, Senior Adviser at the ITU Regional Office for Africa (Tel.: +251 11 551 4855; email: marcelino.tayob@itu.int) and Ms Susan Teltscher, Head, Human Capacity Building Division, ITU/BDT (Tel: +41 22 730 6315, email: susan.teltscher@itu.int), remain at your full disposal should you require any information.

I look forward to active participation from your institution in this important meeting.

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director