Ref.:   BDT/DKH/IDA/DM/040   Geneva, 25 July 2024

- Administrations of ITU Member States in
  the Arab States
- Palestine (Resolution 99 (Rev. Dubai, 2018))
- ITU-D Sector Members and Academia in the
  Arab States
- Regional organisations in the Arab States
- National Regulatory Authorities in the Arab
  States
- National Statistics Offices (NSOs) in the Arab
  States
- WTI and HH contacts in the Arab States
- United Nations Funds, Programmes, and
  Specialized agencies in the Arab States

Subject: **ITU Regional Workshop for the Arab States on promoting and measuring Universal and
Meaningful Connectivity (UMC), 1-3 October 2024, Doha, Qatar**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to attend the ITU Regional Workshop for the Arab States on promoting and
measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (UMC), organized by the Telecommunication Development
Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in collaboration with the Communications
Regulatory Authority (CRA) of the State of Qatar. This workshop will be held from **1 to 3 October 2024** in
Doha, Qatar. The working language will be English and interpretation in Arabic and French will be provided
for both on-site and remote participants.

This workshop is part of the three-year project "Promoting and Measuring Universal and Meaningful
Connectivity" funded by the European Union and is intended for policymakers in charge of national policies
and strategies for digital connectivity, and executives and experts responsible for the measurement of
telecom/ICT development from ministries, national statistics offices (NSOs), regulators, telecom operators,
research institutions, and other relevant organizations from the Arab States.

This regional workshop will cover the following topics:

- Embracing universal and meaningful connectivity: The new policy imperative (day 1)
- Data-driven decision making: Enhancing statistician-policymaker collaboration (day 2)
- Tracking UMC: Strategies for overcoming measurement challenges (day 3)

Participants from national statistical offices and other institutions that collect data on ICT are encouraged to
complete two self-paced courses available through the ITU Academy: "Measuring digital development: ICT
access and use by households and individuals" and "Measuring digital development: Telecommunication /
ICT indicators".

Registration for the workshop should be completed online through the following link: here. Interested
candidates must sign in using their existing ITU user account credentials, which include a username and

password. If they have previously created a user account for any recent ITU meeting, that account remains valid and can be used to register for this workshop. Candidates who do not have an ITU user account can create a new one by following the instructions available here. If any assistance is needed with the registration process, they may contact directly BDTMeetingsRegistration@itu.int.

There is no participation fee for this workshop. However, all expenses related to the travel, accommodation and insurance of participants should be covered by their Administration/Organization. Candidates who are selected but are not able to travel can also participate remotely, provided that they complete the online registration, and their application is accepted.

To encourage in-person participation from developing countries, from low- and lower-middle income countries in particular, and subject to availability of funds and number of eligible applications received, up to two full fellowships may be granted per country. Full fellowships will cover the air ticket (one return economy class ticket by the most direct/economical route from the country of origin to the meeting venue), and appropriate daily subsistence allowance intended to cover accommodation, meals and incidental expenses.

To apply for fellowships, candidates must first register for the workshop and complete the two mandatory ITU Academy training courses, as explained above, and then complete the fellowship application form by **20 August 2024** at the latest. Selected fellowship applicants will be contacted separately with further instructions. A notification will also be sent to candidates who are not granted a fellowship.

In line with Plenipotentiary Resolution 213 (Dubai, 2018), the fellowship selection will consider gender balance and inclusion of persons with disabilities and with specific needs.

All participants will receive further guidance on preparing a short contribution to present during the sessions. Additional information about content and logistics will be provided in due course and will be made available on the UMC webpage. For questions concerning the venue, accommodation, and visa support, please contact Ms Fatima Khalid Al Abdulla at umclogistics@cra.gov.qa. For any other questions, please contact Ms Rouda Alamir Ali at ITU-RO-ArabStates@itu.int and Mr José L. Cervera-Ferri at jose.cervera@itu.int.

I look forward to your registration and your active participation in this Regional Workshop.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director