



General Secretariat (SG)

Geneva, 23 April 2019

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- To Administrations of ITU Member States;
- To ITU Sector Members, Associates, Academia and relevant international, regional and national organizations

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Subject: **The Future of Television for Europe
(Geneva, Switzerland, 7 June 2019)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 It is my pleasure to invite you to attend the ITU Workshop on **“The Future of Television for Europe”**, which will take place on 7 June 2019 at the headquarters of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Geneva, Switzerland.

2 The aim of the workshop is to discuss the future of television for Europe with relevant stakeholders, covering regulatory and policy frameworks, emerging and convergent ICT Infrastructures and services, as well as user interfaces and accessibility issues. It also provides an opportunity to discuss TV-related regional and international standardization and to share best practices and case studies on cable TV roll-outs and other new TV services.

This event will be collocated with the meeting of the [ITU-T Study Group 9 \(Broadband Cable and TV\)](#), planned in Geneva, 6-13 June 2019 (see TSB Collective [4/9](#)). Also, a meeting of the Intersector Rapporteur Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (IRG-AVA) will be organized in Geneva on 6 June 2019 afternoon (see [IRG-AVA website](#)). Both SG9 and IRG-AVA meetings will make use of remote participation capabilities.

3 This workshop is being organized within the context of the European Regional Initiative approved by WTDC-17 on “Broadband Infrastructure, Broadcasting and Spectrum Management”, whereby assistance is to be provided to countries in need on the assessment of dynamics, challenges and opportunities of diverse broadband technologies across Europe. The event is also supported by the ITU-T SG9 (*Broadband Cable and TV*) and ITU-R SG6 (*Broadcasting service*) and is an opportunity to bridge the requirements and needs of various countries with the standards community.

Eventually, it will contribute to the workflow of ITU Study Groups, namely:

- ITU-T SG9: Broadband cable and TV
- ITU-R SG6: Broadcasting service
- ITU-D SG1: Enabling environment for the development of telecommunications/ICTs
- ITU-D SG2: ICT services and applications for the promotion of sustainable development

4 Information relating to the event, including the programme and registration is available on the event's website at: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/20190607/Pages/default.aspx>. Please register via the online form: <https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Registration.aspx?Event=C-00005993> no later than 31 May 2019. For your convenience, a list of recommended hotels and other practical information can be found at: <http://www.itu.int/en/delegates-corner/Pages/default.aspx>.

5 Participation is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, ITU Academic Institutions and to any individual from a country which is a member of the ITU and who wishes to contribute to the work. This includes individuals who are also members of international, regional and national organizations. Participation to the workshop is free of charge.

6 I would remind you that citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa in order to enter and spend any time in Switzerland. **The visa must be requested at least four (4) weeks before the date of beginning of the event** and obtained from the office (embassy or consulate) representing Switzerland in your country or, if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of departure. If problems are encountered by **ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates or Academic Institutions**, and at the official request made by them to TSB, the Union can approach the competent Swiss authorities in order to facilitate delivery of the visa, but only within the period mentioned of **four** weeks. Any such request should be made by checking the corresponding box on the registration form no later than four weeks before the event. Enquiries should be sent to the ITU Travel Section (travel@itu.int), bearing the words "**visa support**".

For additional information and questions relating to the event, please contact tsbevents@itu.int.

Please note also the following focal points for this event:

- ITU Office for Europe : Ponder, Jaroslaw jaroslaw.ponder@itu.int
- ITU-R/BR : Chang, Ruoting ruoting.chang@itu.int
- ITU-T/TSB : Polidori, Stefano stefano.polidori@itu.int
- ITU-D/BDT : Bozsoki, Istvan istvan.bozsoki@itu.int

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Houlin Zhao
Secretary-General