

General Secretariat (SG)

Geneva, 11 November 2025

Reference CL-25/50 To:

Contact: Sadhvi Saran ITU Member States, Sector Members,

E-mail: <u>subseacables@itu.int</u> Associates and Academia,

State of Palestine,

Organizations which have the right to attend ITU conferences and meetings as observers

Subject: Invitation to the Second International Submarine Cable Resilience Summit

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to the **Second International Submarine Cable Resilience Summit**, scheduled to take place **in Porto, Portugal, on 2-3 February 2026**. This Summit will be hosted by Prof. Sandra Maximiano, Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Communications Authority of the Republic of Portugal (ANACOM) and co-chair of the International Advisory Body on Submarine Cable Resilience.

Building on the discussions at the successful Abuja Summit 2024 and its resulting <u>Summit Declaration</u>, this high-level event will convene governments, regulatory authorities, industry leaders, submarine cable experts, international organizations, and other stakeholders to continue to address the pressing challenges surrounding submarine telecom cable systems. These systems underpin the global digital economy, carrying over 99% of the world's data traffic.

The Summit will feature high-level sessions, and expert panels, with interactive discussions aimed at enhancing the resilience of this vital infrastructure.

The event offers a unique platform for Member States and stakeholders to share experiences, explore innovative solutions, and help in collaboratively shaping strategies to bolster the resilience of global connectivity infrastructure.

Notably, the Summit will also host the second physical meeting of the International Advisory Body on Submarine Cable Resilience. This advisory body, a collaborative initiative between ITU and the International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC), was established in November 2024, and is co-chaired by H.E. Minister Tijani and Prof. Sandra Maximiano.

During this closed-door session, the Advisory Body will review the flagship studies developed by its Working Groups and, as appropriate, approve concrete, actionable recommendations to safeguard global subsea cable infrastructure.

Further details, including the agenda, speakers, and logistical information, will be shared in the coming weeks <u>here</u>. In the meantime, we kindly ask you to **save the date** for this pivotal event.

Your participation will be instrumental in ensuring the success of the Summit, and I look forward to welcoming you to Porto, Portugal for this crucial dialogue.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Doreen Bogdan-Martin Secretary-General