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| **Telecommunication StandardizationBureau** |  |

 Geneva, 30 July 2010

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| Ref:Tel:Fax: | **TSB Circular 127**TSB Workshops/PR+41 22 730 5235+41 22 730 5853 | - To Administrations of Member States of  the Union;- To ITU-T Sector Members;- To ITU-T Associates; |
| E-mail: | tsbworkshops@itu.int  | **Copy:**- To the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups;- To the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- To the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau- To ITU Regional Office, Bangkok- To the Permanent Mission of Australia, Geneva |

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| Subject: | **ITU Regional Consultation on Conformance Assessment and Interoperability for the Asia-Pacific Region - Sydney, Australia, 16 to 17 September 2010**  |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I would like to inform you that ITU-T is organizing a two-day **Consultation on Conformance Assessment and Interoperability for the Asia-Pacific Region** from **16 to 17 September 2010 in Sydney, Australia,** in response to Resolution 76 of the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-08). This event which is kindly hosted by REACH and Telstra International, will take place at **Telstra, Level 12, 231 Elizabeth Street, Sydney 2000, NSW Australia**.

This Consultation is addressed to industry, customers and end-users of ICT products and services, test laboratories, regulators, governments, certification organizations, standard bodies, operators, service providers and representatives of civil society.

1. The ITU Consultation meeting will be preceded by the PITA NGN and Future Telecoms Workshop from 13 to 15 September at the same venue. This workshop is organized by the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA) and supported by the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT).

 Discussions will be held in English only.

3 Participation is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members and Associates and to any individual from a country which is a member of ITU who wishes to contribute to the work. This includes individuals who are also members of international, regional and national organizations. The event is free of charge. Dissemination of this information to the relevant stakeholders will be appreciated.

4 The Consultation will offer a platform for discussion that will help guide ITU’s implementation of its Conformity and Interoperability programme. Those wishing to submit contributions to the discussion should send them to tsbworkshops@itu.int by **Friday, 3rd September 2010**.

The main objectives of the Consultation are to:

* Provide developing countries an opportunity to express their concerns about the lack of conformity and interoperability and negative effects on their networks and vendors to make proposals to have a smooth implementation of Resolution 76 with a minimal impact on their market strategies;
* Illustrate global best practices in terms of conformity assessment and interoperability events performed by leading organizations and the role of regulators;
* Evaluate the likely economic effects on manufacturers and end-users from the application of the conformance and interoperability assessment.
* Consider a program for human resources capacity building and for assisting the establishment of test facilities in developing countries.

5 A preliminary draft programme of the workshop is set out in **Annex 1**. The updated programme, presentations and other information will be made available on the workshop website at the following address: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/wtsa-08/res76/201009/index.html>.

6 Practical information including logistics details relating to this event can be found in **Annex 2.**

7 **Accommodation and Transportation**: Detailed information on accommodation including list of hotels and transportation can be found in the Practical Information document in **Annex 2** or at the ITU-T website: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/wtsa-08/res76/201009/index.html>.

8 **Fellowships**: ITU-T will provide a limited number of full fellowships to **one participant** **per eligible country within the Asia-Pacific region only** *and*within the available budget. The participant must be duly authorized by the respective ITU Administrations from Least Developed Countries and from developing countries with per-capita income under US$ 2,000. While the provision of fellowship is limited to only one participant per country, the number of delegates from a country is not limited provided the expenses of additional delegates are borne by the country. Participants requiring a fellowship are requested to complete the **Fellowship Request Form** in **Annex 3** and return it to the ITU by fax to +41 22 730 5778 by **Wednesday, 1 September 2010 at the latest.**

9 To enable TSB to make the necessary arrangements concerning the organization of the workshop, I should be grateful if you would register via the on-line form at: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/wtsa-08/res76/201009/index.html> as soon as possible, but **not later than Monday, 6 September 2010**. **Please note that pre-registration of participants to the event is carried out exclusively *online*.**

10 All delegates are requested to have a valid passport, and, if required, to obtain appropriate entry visa from the Australian High Commission in their countries of residence in order to enter Australia. Visa supporting letters will be provided to delegates upon request. Such requests should be addressed to: **Amelia Kamanalagi, PITA Training & Field Operations Coordinator,
Tel: +679-3311 638, Fax: +679-3308 750, Mobile: +679-8358481, Email:** **amelia@pita.org.fj** **.**

Yours faithfully,

Malcolm Johnson
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau

**Annexes: 3**

ANNEX 1

(to TSB Circular 127 )

**ITU Regional Consultation on Conformance Assessment and Interoperability for the Asia-Pacific Region, Sydney, Australia, 16-17 September 2010**

Draft Programme

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| **Day 1, Thursday, 16 September 2010** |
|  | **Opening Ceremony** **Master of Ceremonies:****Chairman of the Consultation event:** **Welcome address:** **Keynote speech:**  |
|  | **Session 1: Introductory notes on conformity & Interoperability, WTSA Res76/WTDC Res47**Objectives: This session will review the WTSA-08 Resolution 76 and the action lines endorsed by the Council 2009. It will show the ITU programme for conformity assessment and interoperability including an overview on the ITU Conformity Pilot Database.  |
|  | **Coffee Break** |
|  | **Session 2: Conformity assessment, and Certification.Views from the developing countries and the industry**Objectives: During this session, participants will review the global system for conformity assessment ((ISO/CASCO) as an important element of the quality infrastructure; and review the tools and processes existing in other countries. Review of examples of non conformity and no interoperability addressed by some countries.  |
|  | **Lunch** |
|  | **Session 3: Conformity Assessment, Testing and Mutual Recognition Agreements and Arrangements**Objectives: Global best practices on conformity assessment and testing; the role of national and international Accreditation bodies (e.g. ILAC and IAF) and National Regulatory Authorities; Industry view on the innovation and life cycle of new technologies; Review of views from the DCs and the Industry on Certification and Mutual Recognition Agreements and Arrangements, the Supplier's Declaration of Conformity, The Accredited Certification bodies; Views from Developing County operators, regulators, vendors shall be presented as well as the industry responses on importance of conformity assessment testing, the certification and accreditation processes; Improving the functionality and effectiveness of the pilot conformity database as a tool to permit industry to show products declaring conformity to one or more ITU-T Recommendations ("tested once, accepted everywhere"); Measures that need to be taken to set up test laboratories in the DC Regions; Identification of possibly applicable global best practices and its adaptation in meeting the requirements of DC operators, regulators, customers as well as the industry.  |
|  | **Coffee break** |
|  | **Session 4: Interoperability events in the interest of all the stakeholders** Objectives: Review the main concerns of vendors and suppliers on technical and commercial issues pertinent to interoperability requirements requested by the developing countries; and provide the opportunity for the operators, regulators, and relevant stakeholders in the developing countries to express their views on the main technical and economical difficulties they are facing due to non or partial conformance to standards and/or lack or deficits in interoperability. This session will give opportunity to identify the problems and helps in bridging the gap.  |
|  | **Panel Discussion on the presentations of the day** |
| **Day 2, Friday, 17 September 2010** |
|  | **Session 5: Capacity Building: key to a better C&I understanding**Objectives: This session will show what is done in the world in terms of interoperability tests and events from various entities such as test labs, regulators, Forums and Consortia; review of the ITU role in facilitating such test events; Role of the ITU in the setting up of the NGN interoperability test facility in the Asia-Pacific region; The need of ITU to study standards also forms the testing and interoperability points of views; Role of policy makers, regulators and the industry towards an increased confidence in interoperability philosophy.  |
|  | **Coffee Break** |
|  | **Session 6: Capacity building: Key to a better DC involvement in CIT**Objectives: Capacity building has been identified as a crucial element in bridging the standardization gap, in particular in relevance to Res. 76. Cooperation from International Organizations, SDOs, Forums, Consortia and industry to create opportunities to make technicians, engineers and network planners from developing countries aware and involved in standards development, be able to develop specifications complying to standards, to understand testing suites, be aware of applicability of various test suites to test against the same standards, be able to evaluate test results,... etc.  |
|  | **Closing Session: Panel Discussion addressing possible way-forward** Objectives: Improving the implementation of the ITU conformity and interoperability program and the way-forward taking into account views and concerns of the developing countries as well as the industry; Possible solutions for the concerns shown by some industries in terms of costs, time to market, participation in interoperability events (ITU interop) and participation in the ITU conformity database. |

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ANNEX 2
(to TSB Circular 127)

**ITU Regional Consultation on Conformance Assessment and Interoperability for the Asia-Pacific Region, Sydney, Australia, 16-17 September 2010**

**INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS**

1. PITA NGN & FUTURE TELECOMS WORKSHOP

This event is organised by the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA) and supported by APT: **Date: 13-15 September 2010**

2. ITU-T REGIONAL CONSULTATION ON CONFORMANCE ASSESSMENT & INTER-OPERABILITY FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

This event is organised by the ITU-T, the ITU Sector for Telecommunications Standardizations:

**Date: 16-17 September 2010**

**3. VENUE**

 

The event is kindly HOSTED by

Venue will be at **Telstra, Level 12, 231 Elizabeth Street, Sydney 2000, NSW Australia**.

**4. REGISTRATIONS**

Members who wish to participate in the workshop should complete and submit the online **registration form** on [www.pita.org.fj](http://www.pita.org.fj) no later than 27 August, 2010.

Delegates from ITU official invitation can also register their participants using the on-line registration form provided at the ITU event website: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/wtsa-08/res76/201009/index.html>.

Name badges will be at the Registration Desk during registration. For identification and security reasons, all delegates are requested to wear the meeting badges at all times during the meeting.

**5. VISA**

All delegates are requested to have a valid passport, and, if required, to obtain appropriate entry visa from the Australian High Commissions. Visa supporting letter will be submitted to delegates upon request.

**6. AIRPORT TAX**

Most countries will include Airport Tax with airline ticket, however, enquire with your Ticketing Agent for any Airport or applicable taxes.

**7. TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION**

Kingsford Smith International Airport in Sydney is 9km from the city centre.

1. The Airport Shuttle Bus departs frequently from outside the terminal at a cost of $12-$15 one-way.
2. Taxis cost around $30.

Delegates should make their own transportation arrangements from the Airport to their respective hotels, and return.

**For Airport Shuttle Bus**: there are more than 1 shuttle bus companies offering door to door drop off to hotels, booking and tickets purchase can be done at the airport at the arrivals, check with Information, book online here: <http://www.sydneyairportshuttle.com/> or <http://www.kst.com.au/airport.php>

**Hotel Accommodation:** Accommodation in Sydney and surrounding areas can be found on the web site: <http://www.hotelscombined.com/City/Sydney.htm>

However, here are some hotels around the vicinity and used by members before. Check on Goggle Earth for distance and preference:

* **Sheraton on the Park (**From $112)

 161 Elizabeth Street, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

 Tel: +612 9286 6000

* **Hilton Hotel (**From $103)

 488 George Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000, Australia

 Tel: +612 9265 6045 Fax: +612 9265 6065

 Email: sydney@hilton.com

* **Park Regis (Park St) (**From $95)

 27 Park Street (cnr Park & Castlereagh Sts), Sydney NSW 2000

Tel: +61 (0)2 9267 6511, Email: citycentre@parkregishotels.com,
Website: [www.parkregishotels.com](http://www.parkregishotels.com)

* **Coronation (Park St)** (From $109)

 5 - 7 Park St Sydney NSW 2000

 Tel:(02) 9266 3100 or (02) 9267 8362, Fax:(02) 9267 6992

 Email: hotelcoronation@bigpond.com , Website: [www.hotelcoronation.com.au](http://www.hotelcoronation.com.au)

* **Y Hotel, Sydney (**5-11 Wentworth Avenue)

 Single/Twin Traditional Room - $142 / $170
 Single/Twin Deluxe Room - $230 / $260

 Dormitories (Segregated & Shared facilities) - $72

 General Reservations & Receptionist: Tel: +61 2 9264 2451

 Email: res@yhotel.com.au

* **Meriton Serviced Apartments** (From $180)

 329 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

 Email: bookings@meriton.net.au

 Tel: +6102 8263 7400, Fax: +61 02 9261 8654
 Website: [www.meritonapartments.com.au](http://www.meritonapartments.com.au)

* **Oaks Hyde Park Plaza** (From $119)

 38 College St

Sydney NSW 2000, Australia
Tel: +61 2 9331 6933, Website: www.[oakshotelsresorts.com](http://maps.google.com/local_url?q=http://www.oakshotelsresorts.com/&dq=other+accomodation&f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&sll=-33.876802,151.212677&sspn=0.00192,0.003449&gl=fj&ie=UTF8&split=1&filter=0&rq=1&ev=p&z=18&radius=0.12&jsv=255b&mpnum=1003&vps=42&output=js&oi=miw&sa=X&ct=miw_link&cd=1&cad=homepage,cid:440356185265599647&ei=JTc9TPKeBovEowTSwbi-Bw&s=ANYYN7mrerFTZu4mmfbCzxLyNnEAnlfAYQ)

**8. WEATHER AND TIME ZONE**September is in the Spring Season with an approximate temperatures ranging from 15°C - 26°C. It is cold for the Pacific Islanders, so the advise for delegates to bring warm clothing. Local time in Australia in September is GMT +10 hrs.

**9. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SYDNEY**

There are lots of major attractions. For tourist information and what’s on in Sydney, consult the following website: [www.sydney.com.au](http://www.sydney.com.au)

**10. CURRENCY AND CREDIT CARDS**

The local currency is Australian Dollars (AUD)

Internationally recognized credit cards are accepted by the hotel and department stores (Visa, Master, Diners Club, and American Express) for the purchase of goods and for any other financial transactions.

**11. ELECTRICITY**

Electricity voltage is 220-240 volts with 3 pin plug. Countries with dissimilar PIN & Voltage configuration, delegates are advised to bring along your universal adaptor their own conversion adapters.

**12. DRESS CODE**

Dress standard – Island smart casual - Ties discouraged.

**13. INTERNET ACCESS**

Internet access will be available at the workshop venue.

**14. FURTHER INFORMATION AND CONTACT DETAILS**

**Amelia Kamanalagi
PITA Training and Field Operations Coordinator**Tel: +679-3311 638,
Fax: +679-3308 750,
Mobile: +679-8358481
Email: amelia@pita.org.fj

ANNEX 5(to TSB Circular 127)

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| ITU globe2 | **ITU Regional Consultation on Conformance Assessment and Interoperability for the Asia-Pacific Region (Sydney, Australia, 16-17 September 2010)** | ITU globe2 |
| **Please return to:** | **Fellowships ServiceITU/BDTGeneva (Switzerland)** | **E-mail :** **bdtfellowships@itu.int****Tel: +41 22 730 5095** **Fax: +41 22 730 5778**  |
| **Request for a fellowship to be submitted before 1 September 2010** |
| **Participation of women is encouraged** |
| Country:  ……………………………………………………………….………..……………………………..Name of the Administration or Organization: ………...……………….…..………………………………Mr. / Ms.: ……………….………………………………….…………………………………………………. (family name) (given name)Title: ………………………………………………..…………………………….……………………………Address: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………….………………………………………………………..…………………………………………………………Tel: ……………………….……. Fax: …………..…….………... E-Mail: …...………………………………………………………………………………….PASSPORT INFORMATION:Date of birth: ……………………………. Nationality: ……………………………….……………………Passport Number: ……………….…………… Date of issue: ……………………...….………..………In (place): ……………………………….…..… Valid until (date): ………….……………………………. |
| CONDITIONS 1. **One full** fellowship per eligible country within the **Asia-Pacific region** **only.**
2. It is imperative that fellows be present for the entire duration of their fellowship.
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| Signature of fellowship candidate: ………………………………………….. Date: ……...……………... |
| TO VALIDATE FELLOWSHIP REQUEST, NAME AND SIGNATURE OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL DESIGNATING PARTICIPANT MUST BE COMPLETED BELOW WITH OFFICIAL STAMP.Signature: ……..………………………………………. Date: …………………………………………….. |

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