Geneva, 27 June 2013

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| **Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
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| Ref:  Tel:  Fax: | **TSB Circular 38**  COM 5/CB  +41 22 730 6301 +41 22 730 5853 | - To Administrations of Member States of the Union;  - UNFCCC;  - International Energy Agency (IEA);  - DEFRA (UK);  - US EPA;  - GHG Protocol;  - Global Regional GHG Protocol Offices |
| E-mail: | [tsbsg5@itu.int](mailto:tsbsg5@itu.int) | **Copy:**  - To ITU-T Sector Members;  - To ITU-T Associates;  - To ITU-T Academia;  - To the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of all ITU-T Study Groups;  - To SG5 Rapporteurs and Associate Rapporteurs;  - To the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;  - To the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau |

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| Subject: | **Identification of emission factors databases** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

ITU, as the United Nations specialized agency responsible for Information Communication Technologies (ICTs), has a commitment to develop an integrated approach for examining the co-relation between ICT and climate change, and to work closely with the international community to help countries in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

In 2012, ITU-T developed Recommendation ITU-T L.1420 - Methodology for energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions impact assessment of information and communication technologies in organizations. This methodology describes the process to follow when an organization (commercial company, administration, university, …) intends to assess and report its environmental impact in terms of energy consumption and GHG (GreenHouse Gas) emissions. The process includes the selection and declaration of the emission factors databases used by the organization.

Prior studies have shown that organisations use a wide range of databases containing information on emission factors when assessing their own impact, which makes comparison of results difficult or even impossible. This difficulty is increased by the fact that the accuracy, the coverage, and the updating process of these databases are not homogeneous.

ITU-T Study Group 5 “Environment and Climate Change” concluded that there is a need to better analyzed the characteristics of these databases with the objective to identify duplicated information or lack of data that could jeopardize the environmental impact assessment provided by these organizations.

In this context, ITU-T Study Group 5 “Environment and Climate Change” has developed an online questionnaire to gather information on emission factors and their databases repositories which are available worldwide.

I would be grateful if you would provide us with general information on the availability of emission factors databases, through the online questionnaire.

The online questionnaire can be accessed at the following address:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/201306-Emission>

I would be grateful if you would fill in the online questionnaire, and submit it **no later than** **30 September 2013**.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Cristina Bueti ([tsbsg5@itu.int](mailto:tsbsg5@itu.int)).

The success of this emission factors database identification depends on the responses that are received.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Malcolm Johnson  
Director of the Telecommunication  
Standardization Bureau