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| **Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB)** |  | **Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)** |
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| Ref:  Tel:  Fax:  E-mail:  Ref:  Tel:  Fax:  E-mail: | **TSB Circular 103**  +41 22 730 6206 +41 22 730 5853  [seminar-counterfeiting@itu.int](mailto:seminar-counterfeiting@itu.int)  **BDT/IEE/RME/024**  +41 22 730 6256  +41 22 730 5484  [seminar-counterfeiting@itu.int](mailto:seminar-counterfeiting@itu.int) | |  | Geneva, 2 July 2014  - To Administrations of Member States of the Union;  - To ITU-T and ITU-D Sector Members;  - To ITU-T and ITU-D Associates;  - To ITU-T and ITU-D Academia  **Copy to:**  - Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of all ITU-T and ITU‑D Study Groups;  - Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of TSAG and TDAG;  - Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau |
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| Subject: | | | **Seminar on combating counterfeit ICT devices (Geneva, Switzerland,  17-18 November 2014**) | | |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 We would like to inform you that the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is organizing a seminar on combating counterfeit ICT devices. This event will be taking place from  
17 (pm) to 18 November 2014 at the ITU Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland. The programme is attached as **Annex 1.**

2 Substandard and fake ICT products are a serious issue that impacts developed and developing economies, the ICT industry, as well as the consumer population around the world. Their costs and negative effects on stakeholders are broad and numerous—ranging from lost taxes, royalties and other revenues; decreased sales, prices and operations; erosion of brand value, goodwill and reputation; reduced incentive to innovate and invest; lower employment and economic growth rates; network disruptions and interoperability challenges resulting in poor quality of service delivery and reception; and risks to health, safety and environment. According to the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the value of counterfeit products globally is expected to exceed  
USD 1.7 trillion by 2015.

3 The objectives of the seminar are threefold, namely to: (1) discuss the global scope and impact of counterfeiting and substandard ICT products on various stakeholders; (2) highlight the common concerns, challenges, initiatives, practices and opportunities of the various stakeholders in their fight against counterfeiting and substandard ICT products; and (3) examine the possible role of ICT standards development organizations (SDOs), and in particular the ITU, as part of the global strategy and solution to curtail counterfeiting and substandard ICT products.

4 This event will be attended by leading specialists from international organizations, ICT industry, telecom regulators, government officials, standards bodies and legal experts.

5 The seminar is organized pursuant to Resolution 177 (Guadalajara, 2010) and to the new Resolution of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Dubai, 2014), “The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in combating and dealing with counterfeit telecommunication/ information and communication devices”.

6 To enable ITU to make the necessary arrangements for the seminar, and bearing in mind that the number of event participants is limited, we would encourage you to register as soon as possible via the on-line form available on the event website (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/C-I/Pages/WSHP_counterfeit.aspx>), but **not later than 3 November 2014**.

7 Please do not hesitate to contact [seminar-counterfeiting@itu.int](mailto:seminar-counterfeiting@itu.int) if you need additional information about this seminar.

Yours faithfully,

[ Signed ] [ Signed ]

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| Malcolm Johnson  Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau | Brahima Sanou  Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau |

**Annexes: 3**

ANNEX 1  
(to TSB Circular 103)

**Draft Programme**

**Background and Objectives:**

Substandard and fake ICT products are a serious issue that impacts developed and developing economies, the ICT industry, as well as the consumer population around the world. The costs and negative effects of substandard and fake ICT products on all stakeholders are broad and numerous—ranging from lost taxes, royalties and other revenues; decreased sales, prices and operations; erosion of brand value, goodwill and reputation; reduced incentive to innovate and invest; lower employment and economic growth rates; network disruptions and interoperability challenges resulting in poor quality of service delivery and reception; and risks to health, safety and environment. According to the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the value of counterfeit products globally is expected to exceed USD 1.7 trillion by 2015.

This was recognised by the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2010 when it adopted Resolution 177 and by the new Resolution of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Dubai, 2014) on “The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in combating and dealing with counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices”.

The objectives of this ITU seminar are threefold, namely to: (1) discuss the global scope and impact of counterfeiting and substandard ICT products on various stakeholders; (2) highlight the common concerns, challenges, initiatives, practices and opportunities of the various stakeholders in their fight against counterfeiting and substandard ICT products; and (3) examine the possible role of ICT standards development organizations (SDOs) and in particular the ITU, as part of the global strategy and solution to curtail counterfeiting and substandard ICT products as well as to assist members in addressing their concerns regarding counterfeit devices.

**Programme:**

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| **DAY 1: Monday, 17 November 2014 (afternoon)** |

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| 08:30-12:00  and 13:00-17:00 | **Registration** |
| 14:00-14:15 | **Opening Remarks** |
|  | * Welcome address from the Chair of the seminar * Welcome address from Brahima Sanou, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau and/or Malcolm Johnson, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, ITU |

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| **SESSION 1:** | **Socio-Economic Costs and Effects of Counterfeiting and Substandard ICT products** |
| 14:15-15:45 | This session will discuss the scope and seriousness of the problems that counterfeiting and substandard products pose to around the world, particularly with respect to the ICT industry. The wide range of socio-economic costs and effects of counterfeiting and substandard products on governments, vendors, operators, rights holders and consumers will also be examined. |
| 15:45-16:15 | **Coffee Break** |

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| **SESSION 2:** | **Governments’ Perspective and Intergovernmental Initiatives Against Counterfeiting and Substandard Products** |
| 16:15-18:00 | This session will examine the roles of governments (i.e., legislators, regulators, customs and law enforcement officials, and the judiciary) in combating counterfeiting and substandard products. In particular, governments will highlight their common concerns, main challenges, awareness-raising, best practices and notable experiences in their fight against counterfeiting and substandard ICT products. Key areas for future coordination and improvement by governments will also be identified as well as cooperation and exchange of expertise. This session will further present the key legal frameworks, programmes and other initiatives that have been established to protect and enforce intellectual property rights (IPRs) as well as to combat counterfeiting and substandard ICT products. |

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| **DAY 2: Wednesday, 18 November 2014** |

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| **SESSION 3:** | **The Rights Holders’ Perspective: Business Entities and Industry Associations** |
| 09:30-10:45 | This session will discuss the roles of rights holders in curtailing counterfeiting and substandard ICT products. In particular, rights holders will highlight their common concerns, main challenges, best practices and notable experiences in their fight against counterfeiting and substandard ICT products. Key areas for future coordination and improvement by rights holders will also be identified. |

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| 10:45-11:15 | **Coffee Break** |

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| **SESSION 4:** | **Anti-Counterfeiting/Substandard Technologies and Systems** |
| 11:15-12:45 | This session will discuss the various types of technologies and other technical measures used by governments and rights’ holders in the fight against counterfeiting and substandard ICT products. Examples of identification and authentication technologies, track and trace technologies, conformance testing and certification technologies, and information gathering and exchange systems, among others, will be presented. |
| 12:45-14:00 | **Lunch** |

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| **SESSION 5:** | **Consumers and Academia’s Perspectives** |
| 14:00-15:30 | The session will present the views of consumer associations and academia in combatting counterfeiting and substandard ICT products. In particular, the common concerns and challenges faced by consumers will be highlighted, the best practices and notable experiences of industry associations will be shared, and consumer protection measures as well as key areas for future coordination and improvement will be identified. |
| 15:30-16:00 | **Coffee Break** |

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| **SESSION 6:** | **International Standards and SDOs as part of the Global Anti-Counterfeiting/Substandard Strategy** |
| 16:00-17:15 | This session will present the role that international standards and standards setting organizations (SDOs) play as part of the global strategy to fight counterfeiting and substandard ICT products. Relevant international initiatives, standards, guides, programmes of SDOs will particularly be discussed. This session will further examine the role of ITU in combating counterfeiting and substandard ICT products around the world and in fostering cooperation among all stakeholders. Within such context, this session will identify specific actions to be taken by SDOs to develop technical tools, facilitate the gathering and exchange of knowledge, information and practices, raise awareness, and increase coordination and collaboration among the various stakeholders, among other things. |

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| 17:15-17:30 | **Closing Remarks** |
|  | * Closing address from the Chair of the seminar * Closing address from Brahima Sanou, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau and Malcolm Johnson, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, ITU |

ANNEX 2  
(to TSB Circular 103)

**Information and Logistics for the Seminar**

1 The seminar will take place at ITU Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland from 17 to 18 November 2014. The seminar will open at **1400** hours on 17 November 2014. Distribution of badges for registered participants will begin at 1300 on 17 November 2014 at the Montbrillant entrance. Information concerning the meeting room will be displayed on screens at the Montbrillant entrance.

2 Participation is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions, and to any individual or organization from a country which is a member of ITU. The seminar is free of charge.

3 ITU will not be providing fellowships for this event.

4 Wireless LAN facilities are available for use by delegates. Detailed information is available at <http://itu.int/ITU-T/edh/faqs-support.html>.

5 For your convenience, a hotel confirmation form is enclosed as **Annex 3** (see <http://www.itu.int/travel/> for the list of hotels).

6 Citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa in order to enter Switzerland. The visa must be requested at least four (4) weeks before the seminar 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, ITU can approach the competent Swiss authorities to facilitate the delivery of the visa but only within the above-mentioned period of four weeks. Any such request should be made by official letter from the administration or entity you represent. This letter must specify the name and functions, date of birth, number, dates of issue and expiry of passport of the individual(s) for whom the visa(s) is/are requested and be accompanied by a copy of the notification of confirmation of registration approved for the ITU-T seminar in question, and must be sent to TSB by fax (+41 22 730 5853) or e-mail ([tsbreg@itu.int](mailto:tsbreg@itu.int)), bearing the words “visa request”. **Please also note that ITU can assist only representatives of ITU Member States, ITU Sector Members, ITU Associates and ITU Academic Institutions.**

ANNEX 3  
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| *This confirmation form should* ***be sent direct to the hotel*** *of your choice* |

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|  | **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION** |  |

**TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**

***“Seminar on combating counterfeit ICT devices”,***

*in Geneva, on* ***17-18 November 2014***

*Confirmation of the reservation made on (date) -------------------------- with (hotel) -------------------------------*

***at the ITU preferential tariff***

*------------ single/double room(s)*

*arriving on (date)----------------------------- at (time) ------------- departing on (date)-------------------------------*

***GENEVA TRANSPORT CARD:*** *Hotels and residences in the canton of Geneva now provide a free "Geneva Transport Card" valid for the duration of the stay. This card will give you free access to Geneva public transport, including buses, trams, boats and trains as far as Versoix and the airport.*

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*Address*  ------------------------------------------------------------------------ *Tel: ------------------------------*

*----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- Fax: ------------------------------*

*----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- E-mail:* -----------------------------

*Credit card to guarantee this reservation*: AX/VISA/DINERS/EC (*or* *other) ---------------------------------*

*No.* -------------------------------------------------------- *valid until* ----------------------------------------------

*Date* ------------------------------------------------------ *Signature*  -------------------------------------------------

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