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| itu-logo | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 19 January 2017 |
| **Ref:** | **TSB Circular 7**BSG/LS | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia;- To the ITU Area Office, Bridgetown, Barbados;- To the ITU Regional Office, Brasilia, Brazil |
| **Tel:** | +41 22 730 5884 |
| **Fax:** | +41 22 730 5853 |
| **E-mail:** | tsbbsg@itu.int | **Copy to:**- To the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups;- To the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- To the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau;- To the ITU Area Office, Bridgetown, Barbados;- To the ITU Regional Office, Brasilia, Brazil |
| **Subject:** | **ITU Regional Standardization Forum for Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG) – The Americas Region (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 6 March 2017)** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is organizing a Regional Standardization Forum for Bridging the Standardization Gap that will kindly be hosted by the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT) on 6March 2017 at Hyatt Regency Trinidad, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. The forum will be held back-to-back with the meeting of ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC) and the meeting of ITU-T Study Group 2 Regional Group for the Americas (SG2RG-AMR), which will take place from 6 to 10 March 2017 at the same venue.

The forum will open at 0930 hours. Participant registration will begin at 0830 hours.

2 Discussions will be held in English and Spanish.

3 Participation is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions 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. Participation is free of charge.

4 The main objective of the event is to provide an open forum for debating and exchanging views on a number of standardization topics under discussion at ITU-T and to highlight activities related to the Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG) Programme. The target audience of the event includes ITU Member States, national standards bodies, ICT regulators, ICT companies, ICT research organizations, service providers, and academia.

5 A draft programme can be found in **Annex 1** of this circular. The draft programme of the forum will also be made available on the ITU website: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/bsg/201703/Pages/default.aspx>. This website will be regularly updated as new or modified information become available. Participants are requested to check periodically for new updates.

6 General information for participants including hotel accommodation, transportation and visa requirements will be made available on the above-mentioned ITU website.

7 To enable ITU to make the necessary arrangements concerning the organization of the forum, I should be grateful if you would register via the online form at <http://itu.int/reg/tmisc/3000946> as soon as possible, but **no later than 21 February 2017.** **Please note that pre-registration of participants of our events is carried out exclusively *online*.** Participants will also be able to register on-site on the day of the event.

8 I would like to remind you that citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa in order to enter and spend any time in Trinidad and Tobago. The visa must be obtained from the office (embassy or consulate) representing Trinidad and Tobago in your country or, if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of departure. Additional information on visa requirements is available on the event website at <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/bsg/201703/Pages/default.aspx> under practical information.

Yours faithfully,

Chaesub Lee
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau

**Annex: 1**

ANNEX 1

(to TSB Circular 7)

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**Regional Standardization Forum for
Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG)**

Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 6 March 2017

|  |  |
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| **8:30 - 09:30** | ​**Registration** |
| **Morning 1** | **Opening Ceremony** |
| **Morning 2** | ​**Introduction to ITU-T's activities in Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG)** |
|  | **​Outcomes of WTSA-16** |
|  | **Standardization in the Americas** |
|  | **Discussion** |
|  | **LUNCH BREAK**  |
| ​**​Afternoon 1** | **Regulatory and policy aspects of ICT/Telecommunications** |
|  | ​**OTT, mobile roaming, mobile financial services, competition policy and Significant Market Power in telecommunications** |
|  | **Discussion**  |
| **Afternoon 2** | ​**Operational and management aspects of ICT/Telecommunications** |
|  | **Disaster relief/early warning, network resilience, numbering, naming, addressing, identification and routing** |
|  | **Discussion** |
| **​16:20** | **​Close** |
| **16:30 – 17:30​** | ​**Meeting of ITU-T Study Group 3 for Latin America and the Caribbean**[**(SG3RG-LAC)**](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2017-2020/03/sg3rglac/Pages/default.aspx) |

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