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| itu-logo | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 19 December 2017 |
| **Ref:** | **TSB Circular 67**BSG/LS | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia |
| **Tel:** | +41 22 730 5884 |
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| **E-mail:** | bridging@itu.inttsbevents@itu.int | **Copy to:**- The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups;- The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau;- The ITU Regional Office for Africa  |
| **Subject:** | **ITU Regional Standardization Forum on Emerging Economic, Regulatory and Policy Trends in a Fast-Changing Digital World (Kigali, Rwanda, 5 February 2018)** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is organizing an African Regional Standardization Forum (RSF) for Bridging the Standardization Gap in Kigali on 5 February 2018, with a focus on emerging economic, regulatory and policy trends. The Forum will kindly be hosted by the Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA) at the Kigali Marriott Hotel. The Forum will be held back-to-back with the meeting of ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Africa (SG3RG-AFR), which will take place from 5 to 8 February 2018 at the same venue.​

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 including the work of Regional Groups. 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 The draft programme of the forum will be made available on the ITU website: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/bsg/20180205/Pages/default.aspx>.
This website will be regularly updated as new or modified information becomes 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 shortly 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/3001049> as soon as possible, but **no later than 31 January 2018.** **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 Rwanda. The visa must be obtained from the office (embassy or consulate) representing Rwanda 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 will be available on the event website under practical information.

Yours faithfully,

*(signed)*

Chaesub Lee
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau