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| ITU logo | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 26 January 2018 |
| Ref: | **TSB Circular 69**TSB Events/DA | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia |
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| E-mail: | tsbevents@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 |
| Subject: | **Second ITU-T Study Group 11 Regional Workshop for Africa on “Counterfeit ICT Devices, Conformance and Interoperability Testing Challenges in Africa” (Tunis, Tunisia, 23 April 2018)** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I would like to inform you that the **Second ITU-T Study Group 11 Regional Workshop for Africa on “Counterfeit ICT Devices, Conformance and Interoperability Testing Challenges in Africa”** will be kindly hosted by the Centre d'Études et de Recherche des Télécommunications (CERT) and will take place at the hotel Hotel Ramada Plaza Gammarth (<http://www.ramadaplaza-tunis.com/>), Tunis, Tunisia on 23 April 2018.
The workshop will be followed by the ITU-T Study Group 11 Regional Group for Africa
(SG11RG-AFR) meeting taking place in the same venue from 23 (afternoon) to 25 April 2018.

2 This workshop will be held in English only.

3 Participation in the workshop is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions and to any individual from a country that 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 at the workshop is free of charge, however seats are limited and no fellowships will be granted.

4 The workshop aims to identify and discuss issues related to combating counterfeiting and Conformance and Interoperability (C&I) with a focus on the African region and activities going under ITU-T SG11 and ITU-T SG11RG-AFR. The discussion will focus on:

* problems and the impact of counterfeiting issues on the ICT market, ranging from lost taxes and other revenue to erosion of brand value, network disruptions and interoperability challenges resulting in poor quality of service delivery; and risks to health, safety and environment;
* new trends and mechanisms in ICT counterfeiting, tampering and/or duplication of unique device identifiers;
* mechanisms to secure the supply chain management (from manufacturing, importation distribution and marketing) to ensure traceability, security, privacy and trust of people, products and networks;
* technical solutions to combat counterfeit ICT devices;
* Implementation of the ITU C&I Programme;
* C&I activities and testing laboratories in the Region;
* MRAs and Harmonized Standards Development for the Region;
* Joint ITU-T/IEC activities including CASC and joint certification schemes;
* SG11 activities on C&I and combating counterfeiting ICT devices.

5 Information relating to the workshop, including practical information and the programme of the event, will be available on the event website at: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/20180423/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 Wireless LAN facilities will be available at the venue of the event.

7 Registration is mandatory for all participants planning to attend the workshop. You are invited to complete the online registration form available at: <https://www.itu.int/online/edrs/REGISTRATION/edrs.registration.form?_eventid=3001055> by 16 April 2018**. Please note that pre-registration of participants for this workshop is mandatory and will be carried out exclusively *online*.**

8 If required, visas must be requested as soon as possiblefrom the embassy or consulate representing Tunisia 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 visa information will be made available on the event website.

Yours faithfully,

*(signed)*

Chaesub Lee
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau