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|  | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 17 April 2024 |
| Ref: | **TSB Circular 205**TSB Events/RU | **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 Chairs and Vice-Chairs of ITU-T Study Groups;- The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau;* The ITU Regional Office for Arab States;

- The ITU Area Office for Arab States. |
| **Subject**:  | **ITU Regional Workshop on EMF Harmony: Balancing Connectivity, Safety and Tower Location Selection in the Arab Region (Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 13–16 May 2024)** |

Dear Sir or Madam,

1 The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), together with the Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (TRA) of Oman, is organizing the **ITU Regional Workshop on EMF Harmony: Balancing Connectivity, Safety and Tower Location Selection in Arab Region** from **13 to 16 May 2024** in **Muscat, Sultanate of Oman**. The event will be co-located with the meeting of [ITU-T Study Group 5 Regional Group for the Arab Region](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/regionalgroups/sg05-arb/Pages/default.aspx) and training on Bridging the Standardization Gap.

2 In an era in which Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) permeate every aspect of our lives, the importance of building and maintaining safe ICT infrastructure cannot be overstated. The evolution from 4G to 5G brings unprecedented speed, capacity and connectivity, promising revolutionary advancements. However, with these advancements come the following questions: What is the impact of electromagnetic fields (EMF) on human health and safety? How do we assess this exposure accurately, and what tools do regulators have at their disposal to ensure public safety and trust?

3 This workshop aims to address the public concerns on human exposure to EMF by raising awareness, promoting international standards and by showcasing national efforts in Arab countries. Regulators play a crucial role in ensuring public safety and trust. Together, we can harness the benefits of ICTs while prioritizing safety.

4 The objectives of the workshop include:

* Raise awareness of human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF)
* Legal regulatory requirements for the establishment of telecommunications towers: challenges, difficulties and proposed solutions
* The impact of urban planning on the telecoms infrastructure of the ICTs sector, including telecoms towers
* Provide a comprehensive understanding of ITU's activities and the work of international organizations such as ICRNIP, GSMA and WHO on EMF
* Promote awareness of international recommendations and standards of the EMF
* Highlight national efforts, encouraging collaboration and showcasing public awareness initiatives in Arab countries, including interactive demonstrations to provide practical insights into EMF measurement processes
* Provide an overview on how to contribute to the standardization work through hands-on training on bridging the standardization gap.

5 The workshop targets a diverse audience, including ICTs policy makers, regulators, industry professionals, health and safety experts, researchers, legislators, and judiciaries interested in EMF-related matters.

6 All relevant information pertaining to the event (e.g., draft programme, list of speakers, registration link) will be made available on the event website here: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/sg05rg/emf/Pages/default.aspx>. The website will be updated regularly as new or modified information becomes available. Participants are encouraged to check the website periodically for the latest updates.

7 To enable TSB to make the necessary arrangements concerning the organization of the workshop, I would be grateful if you would register as soon as possible at: <https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Registration.aspx?Event=C-00014007> and **no later than 4 May 2024. Please note that pre-registration of participants for the workshop is mandatory and is carried out exclusively online.**

8 I would remind you that citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa to enter and spend any time in Oman. The visa must be requested and obtained from the office (embassy or consulate) representing Oman in your country or, if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of your departure. Visa support requests are to be addressed directly to the host of the workshop. Further instructions on visa support and other relevant logistic details will be made available in the **“Practical information”** document found on the event website.

Yours faithfully,

Seizo Onoe
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau