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| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 13 November 2024 |
| **Ref:****Contact:** | TSB Circular 006Vijay Mauree | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union- ITU-T Sector Members- ITU-T Associates- ITU Academia |
| **Tel:** | +41 22 730 5591 |
| **Fax:** | +41 22 730 5853 |
| **E-mail:** | gcc-secretariat@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 Directors of ITU Regional Office |
| **Subject:** | **Setting up of OpenWallet Forum and invitation to join the OpenWallet Forum** **Government Consultative Committee (GCC) first meeting taking place online** **on 6 December 2024 from 13:00 to 14:30 CET.** |
| Dear Sir/Madam,1 I am pleased to announce the establishment of the OpenWallet Forum which is convened by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The OpenWallet Forum was announced at the WSIS+20 Forum High Level Event held from 27-31 May 2024, where the ITU and the [Linux Foundation](https://openwallet.foundation/) had announced their intention to collaborate to advance multi-stakeholder cooperation in the development and deployment of globally interoperable digital wallets and digital public infrastructure. The new WTSA- 24 Resolution on *Enhancing standardization activities for digital public infrastructure* calls on the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) to promote the participation of the membership in ITU-T's activities on digital public infrastructure, including through the integration of dialogues to share experiences and lessons learned.2 Digital wallets have become essential components of the digital public infrastructure (DPI), enabling individuals to access public digital services, prove their identity, make payments, and store various credentials, including digital identity, digital currencies, digital assets, medical records, driving licenses, travel documents, and education qualifications. 3 In this context, the OpenWallet Forum aims to serve as a neutral, inclusive, multi-stakeholder platform for dialogue on public policy matters, technical requirements, and specifications related to multipurpose interoperable digital wallets. This will allow governments, in collaboration with the private sector, standards organizations, academia, and civil society, to build and deploy their digital services and applications cost-efficiently, accelerated, and interoperable, ensuring secure participation in the global digital economy. 4 To achieve this objective, the OpenWallet Forum is establishing a Government Consultative Committee (GCC), as part of the Forum, to provide a platform for dialogue for governments to discuss public policy and technology requirements related to digital wallets, learn from best practices and formulate technical requirements that meet their needs. The inaugural meeting of the GCC will take place virtually on **6 December 2024, at 13:00 CET**. Please see the draft agenda in Annex 1.More information about the OpenWallet Forum and its activities are available on the ITU website here: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/extcoop/openwalletforum/Pages/default.aspx>. 6 The GCC is a pivotal component of the OpenWallet Forum, open to representatives from ITU Member States, with intergovernmental organizations invited as observers. The GCC’s primary roles include:* Discussing government and other public policy interests and concerns regarding digital wallets.
* Exchanging diverse views on a broad range of public policy issues and requirements for global interoperability of digital wallets.
* Encouraging international and multi-stakeholder collaboration to share knowledge and best practices and to explore opportunities and challenges related to digital wallets.

ITU will be convening the meetings of the GCC on monthly basis. The work of the GCC will provide guidance to the discussions at the multistakeholder collaboration meetings of the OpenWallet Forum which will take place next year, where the private sector, digital wallet developers, and standards development organizations would participate.7 The GCC leadership team will include two Co-Chairs (one representative from a Developed Country and one from a Developing Country) and six Vice-Chairs, reflecting a balanced representation of geographic and developmental diversity. All leadership nominations will be considered by the GCC at its meeting and decide on the selection of Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs by consensus. The GCC leadership team, is responsible for identifying emerging trends, setting priorities, and leading all GCC meetings. Participants are expected to actively engage in GCC activities by attending meetings, sharing expertise and contributing to policy guidance for the multi-stakeholder collaboration meetings.8 I would like to invite the active participation of your country in the GCC to engage fully in discussions that will shape the future of digital wallets. In order to confirm your interest to participate in the GCC meetings, I would like to invite you to nominate the representative(s) for your country for the GCC by sending an official signed letter with the name(s) of the representative(s) and their contact details, including their email addresses. Countries can nominate a maximum of three representatives indicating their main focal point. A sample letter is provided in Annex 2. The letter of nomination is to be submitted to ITU by email to gcc-secretariat@itu.int. **It would be appreciated if the letter could be received by** **28 November 2024. Upon receipt of the letter of nomination by ITU your representative will receive the link for the online meeting by email.** 9 I would encourage you to coordinate with your country’s relevant government agencies’ teams that are subject matter experts involved in developing or influencing governmental public policies related to digital wallets and provide designated alternate representatives and any designated advisors as appropriate. 10 I look forward to your participation in the OpenWallet Forum GCC and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a productive and enjoyable meeting.Yours faithfully,Seizo OnoeDirector of the TelecommunicationStandardization BureauAnnexes: * Annex 1: Agenda of Government Consultative Committee (GCC) meeting
* Annex 2: Sample text for letter confirming nomination of representative for GCC
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**Annex 1: Agenda of OpenWallet Forum Government Consultative Committee (GCC)**

**6 December 2024, 13:00 – 14:30 CET, Virtual Meeting**

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| 13:00 – 13:1513:15 – 13:3513:35 – 14:1514:15 – 14:3014:30 | **1.** **Welcome Remarks****2. Introduction and overview of the agenda****3. Overview of OpenWallet Forum****4. GCC Terms of Reference****5. GCC Leadership****6 Information on upcoming events of OpenWallet Forum****6.1. OpenWallet Forum High-Level Panel Meeting in Davos, 22 January 2025 (tbc)*** Review the draft agenda and gather inputs.

**6.2. Multistakeholder Meeting, July 2025****7. Next Meeting****8. Any Other Business**Meeting adjourns |

**Annex 2: Sample text for letter confirming nomination of representative for GCC**

To: Mr Seizo Onoe, Director of TSB, ITU

**Subject: OpenWallet Forum: Nomination of representative(s) for GCC meeting and participation in the GCC meeting on 6 December 2024**

Dear Mr Onoe,

The [ministry, department, or agency] of [country] that looks after matters related to [Digital Wallets issues] formally confirm participation in the OpenWallet Forum Government Consultative Committee (GCC). It is pleased to appoint [GCC Representative name (s)] as its representative(s).

*[Please specify below whether the person nominated is the main focal point, or designated alternate representative]*

Please find the nominated representative(s) and designated advisors’ information below:

Prefix or Title:

First name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Role in the GCC: *[Specify whether main focal point or designated alternate representative]*

Organization Name:

Email:

Yours sincerely,

[*Letter to be signed by the appropriate ministry senior official]*