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|  | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 23 September 2025 |
| **Ref**: | **TSB Circular 074**TSB Events/HO | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- The State of Palestine (Res. 99 (Rev. Dubai, 2018);- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia**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 |
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| **Subject**:  | **IEC-ITU-T Workshop on “Standardization Roadmap for Cabled Multi-Core Fibre and Optical Network Sensing Technologies” (Geneva, Switzerland, 17 October 2025)** |
| Dear Sir/Madam,1 I am pleased to inform you that the [**International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**](https://www.itu.int/en/Pages/default.aspx) is organizing the **IEC TC86 and ITU-T SG15 Joint Workshop on “Standardization Roadmap for Cabled Multi-Core Fibre and Optical Network Sensing Technologies”** in the afternoon of **17 October 2025 from 14h00 to 17h30 CEST** at **ITU Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland**. This workshop will be held in conjunction with the ITU-T SG15 meeting taking place from 13-24 October 2025. Remote participation will be provided.2 In the coming decade, optical submarine systems are projected to demand data transmission capacities exceeding one petabit per cable. This surge is driven by a diverse array of data-intensive technologies and applications, ranging from artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning to security solutions, autonomous driving innovations, telemedicine advancements, and beyond, all underscoring the critical role of distributed data centre networks. To meet these evolving demands, groundbreaking optical network technologies such as space division multiplexing (SDM), massive parallelism architectures, reduced latency protocols, and other cutting-edge approaches are becoming necessary. 3 Recognizing this shift in technological requirements, new standardization efforts have commenced. Notably, March 2025 marked a pivotal milestone with ITU-T SG15 initiating official activities on multi-core fibre featuring standardized cladding diameters. Concurrently under investigation are international standards for optical network sensing across both submarine and terrestrial links; a promising frontier that holds transformative potential. 4 This workshop will serve as a platform to explore the future trajectory of these standardization initiatives while addressing emerging market trends shaping next-generation optical cabled fibre and network sensing technologies. By fostering collaboration among multiple standardization bodies worldwide, this event aims not only to accelerate progress but also to lay the foundation for an effective global ecosystem capable of meeting tomorrow’s connectivity challenges head-on. 5 Participation in the workshop is free of charge and is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions, all regular participants of IEC and ITU-T SG15 meetings and to any individual interested in the topic who wishes to contribute to the work. This includes individuals who are also members of international, regional and national organizations.6 All relevant information pertaining to the event (e.g., draft programme, list of speakers, registration link) will be made available on the main event webpage at: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/2025/1017/Pages/default.aspx>. The website will be updated regularly as new or modified information becomes available and participants are encouraged to check periodically for the latest information.7 To enable TSB to make the necessary arrangements concerning the organization of the workshop, I would be grateful if you could register as soon as possible at: <https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Registration.aspx?Event=C-00015837>. **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 Switzerland. The visa must be requested and obtained from the office (embassy or consulate) representing Switzerland in your country or, if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of departure. Yours faithfully,Seizo OnoeDirector of the TelecommunicationStandardization Bureau |