

Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)
Regional Office for Africa

Réf ROA/ADD/AR/ma/L034/19

Addis Ababa, 26 March 2019

To: - ITU Member States,

- ITU-D Sector Members,
- Regulators,
- Associates,
- Academia,
- the Centres of Excellence network for Africa,
- Regional organizations in Africa

**Subject**: ITU Regional Development Forum for Africa, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019, Lusaka, ZAMBIA

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Regional Development Forum (RDF) for the Africa region, to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 which will take place at the "Ridgeway Southern Sun Hotel" of Lusaka in Zambia. The Forum, focused on the theme "**Digital transformation to achieve SDGs**" is organized in partnership with the Ministry of Transport and Communication of Zambia and the ICT regulator ZICTA.

Regional Development Forums provide an opportunity for high-level dialogue between the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the ITU and decision-makers of ITU Member States and Sector Members. They serve as a platform for assessing strategic orientation that may have an impact on BDT's regional work plan in between World Telecommunication Development Conferences (WTDCs). In this context, these forums report on the activities of WTDCs, notably the Buenos Aires Action Plan (BaAP 2017), with particular emphasis on Regional Initiatives in order to get feedback from membership to adjust BDT's work in each region of the world.

The Regional Development Forum for Africa will discuss in detail the implementation of projects selected for the five regional initiatives approved by WTDC-17, providing members with an opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices in their implementation.

The Forum will be conducted in English and French, with simultaneous interpretation. Please note that all information related to the Forum and the Regional Workshop, including presentations and country information note will be available on the ITU website at: <a href="http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Africa/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Africa/Pages/default.aspx</a>.

As per all RDF, no participation fee is required for this event. You are invited to register online using the following link: <a href="http://www.itu.int/go/regitud">http://www.itu.int/go/regitud</a> preferably before 5th May 2019.

Should you require any further information, Mrs. Chali TUMELO, ITU Area Representative for Southern Africa, is at your full disposal. E-mail: <a href="mailto:chali.tumelo@itu.int/itu\_harare@itu.int">chali.tumelo@itu.int/itu\_harare@itu.int</a>
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Sincerely yours,

[Original Signed]

Andrew Rugege Regional Director for Africa and Liaison to ECA and AU

CC: Doreen Bogdan-Martin
BDT Director