



Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)

Ref. BDT/ DDR/SUP/DM041

Geneva, 7 May 2015

To:

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- Regulators
- ITU-D Sector Members, Associates and
- Academia
- Regional organizations in the Americas region

Subject: **ITU Regional Development Forum for the Americas region (RDF), Cancún, Mexico, 14 July 2015**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the ITU Regional Development Forum for the Americas region (RDF), which will take place at the “Casamagna Marriot Cancun Resort”, organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications and Transport and the Federal Institute of Telecommunications (IFT) of Mexico. The Forum will be held in Cancún, Mexico, on 14 July 2015, back-to-back with the “ITU Regional Forum on Optimization and Efficient Use of Spectrum” on 13 July. Both events are taking place within the scope of the Latin American Telecommunications Congress (<http://www.congresotelecomunicaciones.org/en/>).

Regional Development Forums provide an opportunity for high-level dialogue between the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and decision-makers of ITU Member States and Sector Members. They serve as a platform for assessing strategic orientations that may have an impact on BDT’s regional work plan in between world telecommunication development conferences (WTDCs). In this context, these forums will report on the activities of the Dubai Action Plan, 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 the Americas will discuss in detail the five regional initiatives approved by WTDC-14, providing members with an opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices in the implementation of these initiatives in the framework of the ITU Strategic Plan for 2016-2019. The draft agenda of the Forum is attached.

ITU is a unique neutral platform for organizations to network and collaborate with industry, governments, regulators and academia. ITU has a global membership of 193 Member States (governments, administrators and regulators) and over 700 members from the information and communication technology (ICT) sector.

Established in 1865, ITU has reaffirmed its reputation worldwide as one of the most resilient and relevant organizations and continues its work as the specialized agency of the United Nations for telecommunications and information and communication technologies. This year’s Regional Development Forum is linked to the worldwide calendar of events to celebrate ITU’s 150th Anniversary

(www.itu150.org). We invite your organization to participate in this worldwide campaign.

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

No participation fee is required for this event.

You are invited to register online using the following link: <http://www.itu.int/go/regitud>

Online registration will be open until 30 June 2015.

Mr Sergio Scarabino, Senior Advisor, ITU Chile Area Office, is at your full disposal should you require any further information: E-mail: Sergio.scarabino@itu.int ; Tel.: +56-2-22632-6134, Fax. : +56-2-22632-6154

Yours faithfully,

Original signed by

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annex: Draft agenda.

ITU Regional Development Forum for the Americas (RDF-AMS)

14 July 2015

Casamagna Marriot Hotel, Cancún, Mexico

Organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) at the kind invitation of *Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transporte and Instituto Federal de Telecomunicaciones (IFT)*

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 10:00 Welcome addresses immediately followed by ITU's 150th Anniversary celebrations

- Gerardo Ruiz Esparza, Secretary of Communications
- Gabriel Oswaldo Contreras Saldivar, President of IFT
- Brahima Sanou, Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau
 - Welcome address and ITU 150th Anniversary celebrations

10:00 – 10:30 Group photo and coffee break

Session 1: Review of implementation of the Americas regional initiatives 2011-2014

An overview of the implementation of the regional initiatives with special emphasis on lessons learned during this period will be presented by the ITU Americas Regional Team, Americas Regional Office Director and Area Office Representatives

10:30 – 11:10 Implementation of regional initiatives.

11:10- 11:30 Open discussions and feedback

Session 2: BDT members round table on ways to improve implementation

Review the work done in the implementation of regional initiatives in Session 1. This session will focus on ways to improve cooperation between ITU and members in the region, with particular focus on processes.

11:30 – 12:15 Round table

12:15 – 12:30 Questions and Answers

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

Session 3: Preparing the activities for 2016

The objective of this session is to discuss the activities/actions that should be prioritized for 2016 in the Americas region, including the coordination of regional events with the three ITU Sectors and with regional organizations, especially CITELE. Conclusions from this session will guide the Americas Regional Office in conducting its activities during 2016.

14:00 – 15:00 Round table to identify relevant topics for 2016 operational activities

15:00 – 15:30 Open discussions and feedback

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break

Session 4: Proposals for new regional initiatives, paving the way to WTDC-17

The objective of this session is to begin developing regional initiatives for the Americas to be submitted to WTDC-17 for the next cycle. The time it takes to prepare such proposals, including discussion in regional forums, such as CITEEL, suggests that it is appropriate to begin this debate well in advance.

15:45 – 16:30 Round table to identify relevant topics to draft new regional initiatives

16:00 – 17:00 Open discussions and feedback

17:00 – 17:30 Closing remarks

- Mr Brahim Sanou, Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau
- Mexican authority