

Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

Ref.

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Geneva, 2 October 2014

To:

ITU Member States and Sector Members

in the Asia-Pacific Region

Subject:

WOMEN WITH THE WAVE High Level Forum Series:

Turning the Tide for the Pacific, Women's Economic Empowerment through Information and

Communication Technology (ICT) and Media, 17 November 2014, Nadi, Fiji

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the pleasure to invite you to participate in the WOMEN WITH THE WAVE (WWW) High Level Forum Series: *Turning the Tide for the Pacific* that will be held on 17 November 2014 in Nadi, Fiji. The Forum is co-organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and UN Women and will be held back-to-back with the ITU-ABU Pacific Media Partnership (PMP) Conference 2014: Partnering for Broadcast Development (18-19 November 2014, Nadi, Fiji).

The theme of the Forum is "Women's Economic Empowerment through Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Media" and will build on the Declaration issued at the Women with the Wave High-Level Forum on Digital Inclusion of Women and Girls (2012, Seoul, R.O. Korea) calling on "all who can assist to recognize the digital wave now sweeping the world and to join in supporting the preparation of women and girls for the opportunities and benefits which the knowledge society is bringing to families worldwide and which will do so even more in the future".

I also wish to announce the **regional launch of the ITU-UN Women Knowledge Gateway for Women's Economic Empowerment** at this Forum. This initiative is an open global platform that promotes collaboration, learning and innovation with the objective of advancing women's economic empowerment.

Please find attached the provisional programme of the Forum (Annex 1). Further information on the Forum, including the updated agenda, registration details and request for fellowship forms are available on the event website: http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/AsiaPacific/Pages/Events/2014/November-WWW/home.aspx.

ITU is providing a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) to Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) in the Pacific, categorized as Least Developed Countries (LDCs), subject to availability of funds. The deadline for fellowship application is 31 October 2014.

Ms Aurora A. Rubio, Head of ITU Area Office for South-East Asia (<u>aurora.rubio@itu.int</u>) is at your disposal should you have any question regarding the event.

We look forward to your participation in this important Forum.

Yours faithfully,

Brahima Sanou

Director