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| itu_logo | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 9 September 2015 |
| Ref: | **TSB Circular 169**TSB Workshops/VM | - To Administrations of Member States of the Union;- To ITU-T Sector Members;- To ITU-T Associates;- To ITU Academia |
| Contact: | **Vijay Mauree** |
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| E-mail: | tsbworkshops@itu.int  | **Copy:**- To the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups;- To the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- To the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau;- To the Directors of ITU Regional Offices |
| Subject: | **Workshop on Digital Financial Services and Financial InclusionGeneva, Switzerland, 14 December 2015** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I would like to inform you that the ITU is organizing a **workshop on Digital Financial Services and Financial Inclusion** at ITU headquarters, Geneva, on 14 December 2015.

The workshop will open at 0930 hours. Participants registration will begin at 0830 hours at the Montbrillant entrance. Detailed information concerning the meeting rooms will be displayed on screens at the entrances to ITU headquarters.

For your information, this workshop will be followed by the fourth meeting of the Focus Group on Digital Financial Services (FG DFS) on 15-17 December 2015 at the same venue. More information can be obtained on the FG DFS website: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/focusgroups/dfs/Pages/default.aspx>.

2 Discussions will be held in English only.

3 Participation is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions and to any individual from a country which is a member of ITU who wishes to contribute to the work. This includes individuals who are also members of international, regional and national organizations. The workshop is free of charge.

4 The objectives of this workshop are to:

* Discuss the latest technology trends and innovations which are likely to impact the digital financial services sector and providers ability to reach the poor in a sustainable and scalable manner;
* Create a platform for dialogue between the telecom and financial services regulators to discuss emerging issues and best practices for the policy and regulatory framework for financial inclusion;
* Share best practices in areas of consumer protection, interoperability, access to infrastructure and security and risk management;
* Identify collective action and specific next steps to advance the work in the Focus Group on Digital Financial Services.

The outputs of the workshop will be submitted to the Focus Group on Digital Financial Services meeting on 15-17 December 2015.

5 A draft programme including information relating to the workshop will be made available on the ITU-T website at the following address <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/ifds/Pages/201512.aspx>.

6 Wireless LAN facilities are available for use by delegates in the ITU main conference room areas and in the CICG (Geneva International Conference Centre) building. Detailed information is available on the ITU-T website (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/edh/faqs-support.html>).

7 For your convenience, a hotel confirmation form is enclosed as **Annex 1** (see <http://www.itu.int/net4/travel/hotels.aspx?lang=en&stars=&type=&ctry>for the list of hotels).

8 To enable TSB to make the necessary arrangements concerning the organization of the workshop, I should be grateful if you would register via the on-line form <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/ifds/Pages/201512.aspx>, as soon as possible, but **not later than 2 December 2015.****Please note that pre-registration of participants to workshops is carried out exclusively *online*. Remote participation will be offered. Details will be made available on the event website.**

9 I would remind you that citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa in order to enter and spend any time in Switzerland. **The visa must be requested at least four (4) weeks before the date of beginning of the workshop** 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.

If problems are encountered by **ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates or Academic Institutions**, and at the official request made by them to TSB, the Union can approach the competent Swiss authorities in order to facilitate delivery of the visa but only within the period mentioned of four weeks. Any such request should be made by official letter from the administration or entity you represent. This letter must specify the name and functions, date of birth, number, dates of issue and expiry of passport of the individual(s) for whom the visa(s) is/are requested and be accompanied by a copy of the notification of confirmation of registration approved for the ITU-T workshop in question, and must be sent to TSB by fax (+41 22 730 5853) or e-mail (tsbreg@itu.int), bearing the words **“visa request”**. **Please also note that ITU can assist only representatives of ITU Member States, ITU Sector Members, ITU Associates and ITU Academic Institutions.**

Yours faithfully,

Chaesub Lee
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau

**Annex: 1**

ANNEX 1
(to TSB Circular 169)

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| *This confirmation form should* ***be sent direct to the hotel*** *of your choice* |

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|  | **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION** |  |

**TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**

**Workshop on Digital Financial Services and Financial Inclusion** on 14 December 2015 in Geneva

Confirmation of the reservation made on (date) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with (hotel) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**at the ITU preferential tariff**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ single/double room(s)

arriving on (date) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at (time) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ departing on (date) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**GENEVA TRANSPORT CARD**: Hotels and residences in the canton of Geneva now provide a free "Geneva Transport Card" valid for the duration of the stay. This card will give you free access to Geneva public transport, including buses, trams, boats and trains as far as Versoix and the airport.

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

First name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Credit card to guarantee this reservation: AX/VISA/DINERS/EC (or other) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

No.: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ valid until:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_