



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: Connect-ARB_DM/147 Geneva, 6 February 2012
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Subject: **Connect Arab Summit, Doha, Qatar, 5-7 March 2012**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to the Secretary-General's invitation to participate in the upcoming Connect Arab Summit to take place in Doha, Qatar from 5 to 7 March and as the dates are fast approaching, I would like to invite you to inform the Designated Focal Point for registration (DFP) of your organization of the members of your delegation/representation in order to facilitate their registration for this important event.

The list of Registration Focal Points can be accessed using a TIES log-in at this [address](#).

The Connect Arab Summit is organized by the International Telecommunication Union in partnership with the League of Arab States with the aim of mobilizing human, financial and technical resources to further the attainment of the internationally agreed World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) vision and goals as well as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Moreover, this Summit is designed to bring together the leaders of the Arab Region along with all the relevant stakeholders from the public and private sectors as well as international and regional financing and development agencies to network face-to-face and forge new partnerships, to commit towards a shared vision and strategy for the region in the coming years with the aim of collaboratively creating inclusive information societies and advancing prosperity. This partnership will also contribute to the implementation of projects that will enhance the deployment of ICT networks, applications and services within the region.

The draft programme of the Summit can be found in [annex](#).

If your Administration/Entity does not have a DFP, or wishes to modify the contact details and/or change a focal point, you are kindly requested to provide details of his/her last name, first name and e-mail address and submit this information on [letterhead](#) by fax to: +41 22 730 5545/+41 22 730 5484 or as attachment to an e-mail to: bdtmeetingsregistration@itu.int

Practical information on hotel accommodation, visa requirements, transportation and other logistical details available on the Summit websites at www.itu.int/ITU-D/connect/arabstates/practicalinfo/index.asp.

I very much hope your organization will be able to attend the Summit in Doha at the highest level of participation to join the Leaders and heads of relevant stakeholders in setting the scene for the prosperity of the Arab Region through the use of ICTs.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annexes: 2

Annex 1
CONNECT ARAB SUMMIT
DRAFT PROGRAMME

5 MARCH 2012

- 10:00-13:00** **Expert Meeting to review the projects and partnership announcements**
- 11:00-13:00** **Drafting Group meeting to review the draft Communiqué**
- 15:00-17:00** **Meeting of Arab States delegations to review the draft Communiqué**

6 MARCH 2012

- 10:00-11:00** **Opening Ceremony**
- 11:15-12:30** **Opening debate – Build. Innovate. Empower**
- 12:30-13:30** **Press Conference**
- 14:30-16:00** **Roundtable 1- Educate. Create. Employ.**
- 16:30-18:00** **Roundtable 2 – Harmonize. Build. Access.**
- 20:00** **Summit Gala Dinner (TBC)**

7 MARCH 2012

- 10:00-11:30** **Roundtable 3 – Cooperate. Secure. Protect.**
- 12:00-13:00** **Roundtable 4 – Imagine. Digital. Culture.**
- 15:00-16:30** **Roundtable 5 – Youth. Innovation. Entrepreneurship.**
- 16:30-17:00** **Summit Closing**

Annex 2

The Summit in Doha, Qatar

The Summit will bring together countries of the Arab States region represented by Heads of State and Government, Ministers, Heads of Regulatory Authorities, as well as CEOs and senior officials from industry, regional and international organizations including financial institutions. The Summit will also attract representatives from the press, as well as leading ICT analysts and observers

The Summit includes several phases and meetings at the Head of State, and Government, Ministerial, and Expert levels. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, French and Arabic.

Expert Meeting

The purpose of the Expert Meeting is to review the projects and the partnership agreements reached in light of the identified priorities and themes, leading to their announcement during the Summit on the *Partnership Announcement Platform*. The Expert Meeting will be open to all stakeholders (both from within and outside the Region).

Drafting Group

A drafting group will review the draft Communiqué that will be endorsed by the Heads of Delegations of governments of the Arab States region.

Meeting of Arab States Delegations

The purpose of the Meeting of Arab States delegations is to review and endorse the Summit Communiqué before its presentation during the Closing Ceremony.

Since the Communiqué is to be issued in the name of the Heads of State and Governments of the Arab States Region, this meeting will only be open to national delegations and ITU officials.

Roundtables

The roundtables provide a platform to engage government and industry leaders and other stakeholders on major issues of the Summit and to explore a common way forward. This includes securing stakeholder commitments for shared actions as well as the support of Heads of State and Governments. The programme of the roundtable will be based on the Background White Papers prepared by the ITU/LAS Working Groups during the Summit preparatory process. The roundtables also provide visibility for projects highlighted by the Summit and stakeholders involved in their success.

Partnership Announcements

The Summit will provide an excellent opportunity to showcase multi-stakeholder partnerships. For this purpose, the Summit premises will include a *Partnership Announcement Platform* where press meetings, signing ceremonies and interviews can be conducted during the three days of the Summit.

Networking Platform

The Summit in Doha will provide an opportunity for intense networking for all those invited to attend.

Specific attention will be given to VVIP Bilateral Meetings, i.e. meetings between Heads of State and Governments, as well as VIP Bilateral Meetings (meetings at Minister and C-level). In the same spirit, the Summit format will provide an opportunity for other participants to gather and network.

To this end, meeting rooms for bilateral meetings will be available to participants. The networking platform will also provide a mechanism to facilitate the access of stakeholders to the Press covering the event on site.