

Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

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Subject: Pacific Broadband Forum 2012, 26-28 July 2012, Sheraton Resort, Denarau Island, Fiji

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am pleased to invite your organization to participate in the Pacific Broadband Forum 2012 to be held from Thursday 26th to Saturday 28th July 2012, at Sheraton Resort, Denarau Island, the Republic of Fiji. The Forum is jointly organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO), and the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA). The Forum is hosted by the Ministry of Public Enterprises, Communications, Civil Aviation & Tourism, Republic of Fiji, with the support of the Department of Broadband, Communications, and the Digital Economy (DBCDE), Australian Government, and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).

The Pacific Broadband Forum 2012, which targets senior management of governments, key stakeholders and industry, is expected to be a platform where policy makers and decision-makers of the Pacific Islands States and Territories can meet, review, discuss and recommend steps toward broadband development in the Pacific region in particular. This Forum will be held back-to-back with the APT Policy and Regulation Forum for the Pacific that will take place from 23 to 25 July at the same venue. Specific objectives of the Pacific Broadband Forum 2012 are to:,

- Provide a platform for dialogues among policy makers, regulators, industry, and international and regional development agencies particularly in broadband infrastructure service and application development;
- Understand the most current situations, circumstances, issues, opportunities, and challenges particularly in broadband development in each of Pacific Islands States;
- Discuss project proposals and initiatives i.e. "ITU Multi-partnership Project Proposal on Pacific Connectivity including Emergency Communications", the Commonwealth initiative for Climate Change for Small Island States, with an aim to obtain an agreement in scope, commitments, and ways forward;
- Strengthen and enhance partnerships with all stakeholders in implementing projects/initiatives in the Pacific.

The Forum is open to ITU, CTO, PITA, SPC membership as well as other organizations actively working in ICT development in the region. All documents relating to the Forum will be posted on the ITU website at http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/asp/CMS/Events/2012/pacific-bb/index.asp

The Forum is free of charge. To register for this training workshops, participants are kindly requested to complete the attached registration (Annex 2) by 30 June 2012 at the latest. Hotel reservations can be made using the related form available on the aforementioned websites or directly with the hotels.

The ITU is pleased to provide fellowships including daily subsistence allowance (DSA) and air tickets to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Low-Income Countries (LICs) subject to availability of funds. Applicants requesting for fellowship are required to submit the fellowship request form duly signed by their Administration together with the registration form no later than **30 June 2012**.

Administrations and sector members are invited to bring along proposals for their national broadband plans to present at the conference, covering objectives, milestones, funding and technical plans.

For further information, please feel free to contact Mr. Wisit Atipayakoon (<u>wisit.atipayakoon@itu.int</u>) or Ms. Vineeta Shetty (<u>v.shetty@cto.int</u>).

I look forward to active participation from your organization.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou Director

Annexes:

Annex 1: Provisional Agenda

Annex 2: Registration form

Annex 3: ITU Fellowship request form

Annex 4: Useful Information for participants