**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/PKM/DM/220

Geneva, 22 July 2012

Ministries of ICTs and
Regulators in the EECAS/CEMAC Region

Subject: **Availability of in-country technical assistance - ITU-EC HIPSSA Project**

Dear Sir, Madam,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) under the aegis of the ITU-EC HIPSSA[1] has reached a critical stage with the completion of regional model policy guidelines and legislative texts in close collaboration with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Commission de la Communauté Economique et Monétaire de l'Afrique central (CEMAC) and the Telecommunications Regulatory Association of Central Africa (ARTAC).

These documents cover the following areas and are available on the project website for download:

http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/projects/ITU_EC_ACP/hipssa/index.html

- ECCAS Model Legislation on telecommunications and ICTs
  - Legal and institutional framework of electronic communication
  - Universal service
  - Electronic communication
  - Draft law on Interconnection
  - Draft law on Spectrum management and numbering

- ECCAS Model Legislation and CEMAC Directive on Cyber Security
  - Electronic transaction
  - Data protection
  - Cyber crime

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[1] The full title of the HIPSSA Project - funded by the European Commission and the ITU, in collaboration with the African Union Commission and the Regional Economic Communities - is "Support to Harmonization of the ICT Policies in Sub-Sahara Africa". HIPSSA is part of a global ITU-EC project encompassing sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific Islands (ACP).
(See http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/projects/ITU_EC_ACP/hipssa/index.html).

The Project is now embarking on the second stage focusing on **assisting interested beneficiary countries to implement the aforementioned documents at the national level** (in-country technical assistance). **This process is activated further to a formal request made by the interested country**. Your request for assistance must reach the ITU before end of September 2012.

Regarding cybercrime, this assistance will be conducted in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). In this way, interested countries will be able to benefit from the joint expertise of ITU and UNODC, reflected in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by both organizations with the aim to prevent and combat cybecrime.

In addition, you may be interested to benefit from the Guidelines developed in West Africa on **Open Access to Sub Marine Cables** and the **Toolkit for Universal Access/Service developed in Southern Africa** which are the "state of the art" in the domain.

As you may recall, the aim of HIPSSA project is to support the harmonization of ICT policies and legislations in Sub-Saharan Africa with the financial support of the European Union. It was officially launched during a multi-stakeholders (kick off) meeting in Addis Ababa on 11 and 12 of December 2008.

If you require any further clarification or additional information, please contact Ms. Ida Jallow, HIPSSA Senior Project Coordinator, e-mail: ida.jallow@itu.int, Tel.: +251 11 551 4977, Extension 31.

I take this opportunity to thank you for the active contributions from the region and I look forward to our collaboration in this second stage of the ITU-EC funded HIPSSA project.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Copy: - Mr. Andrew Rugege, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Africa
- Mr. Moctar Yedaly, Head of Posts & Telecommunication Division, AUC
- Mr. Emmanuel Kamdem, Telecom Expert, ECCAS
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