



**Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/AO-JAKARTA/DM/361

Geneva, 23 September 2013

Administrations of ITU Member States,  
Regulators and ITU-D Sector Members In the  
Asia Pacific Region

Subject: Women With the WAVE High Level Forum Series  
Diversity Media and ICT Forum - Information Exchange and Networking Sessions on  
Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Media Inclusion of Women,  
Girls and Persons with Disabilities, Hanoi, Viet Nam, 23-24 October 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is a great pleasure to invite your organization to participate in the **Women With the WAVE Series: High Level Forum on Diversity Media and Information Exchange and Networking Sessions on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Media Inclusion of Women, Girls and Persons with Disabilities**, which will be held on 23-24 October 2013 in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

The Forum is jointly organized by ITU and the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU), in partnership with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) and with the kind support of UNESCO and the Department of Broadband Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE), Government of Australia.

The Forum is aimed at providing a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss and showcase best practices on ICT and media inclusion of women, girls and persons with disabilities, as well as gender-responsive and disability inclusive workplace policies in Asia-Pacific broadcasting, media and ICT organizations, ensuring that women, girls and persons with disabilities (PwDs) are targeted by efforts to galvanize actions for equal opportunities and empowerment through ICTs and media.

This is in line with WTDC Res. 55 (Doha, 2006): "Promoting gender equality towards an all-inclusive information society", Plenipotentiary Conference Resolution 70 (rev Guadalajara, 2010): "Gender mainstreaming in ITU and promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women through information and communication technologies", and the 4<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Women Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

The Forum is also linked to Article 9 of the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities which defines ICT accessibility as an integral part of accessibility rights on par with transportation and the physical environment.

The Forum is essentially targeted at senior officials from policy makers, regulators, industry and international organizations who are involved in ICT policies, regulations, operations, strategies and development activities promoting digital inclusion of persons with special needs.

Please find annexed the Forum provisional programme, for your perusal. The Forum's latest information including updated, agenda, hotel reservation forms, useful information for participants, registration and request for fellowship form are available on the ITU Asia Pacific Region website: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/asp/CMS/Events/2013/ITU-ABU-2013/index.asp>.

ITU is pleased to provide one fellowship for each eligible country, subject to availability of funds. Applicants requesting fellowships are required to submit their fellowship request forms duly signed by their respective Administration together with their registration form **no later than 10 October 2013**.

Ms Aurora A. Rubio, Head of ITU Area Office for South East Asia, is at your full disposal should you require any further information (email [aurora.rubio@itu.int](mailto:aurora.rubio@itu.int)).

We look forward to your active participation in this important event.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou  
Director