



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref. BDT/RPM-ARB/DM/364

Geneva, 13 September 2013

To Ministers in ARB region

Subject: Regional Development Forum (RDF), 28 October 2013, and Regional Preparatory Meeting (RPM) for the Arab States, 29-31 October 2013, Manama, Bahrain.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to the invitation sent to the administration of your country, I have great pleasure in inviting your Government to send a delegation to the Regional Preparatory Meeting (RPM-ARB) for the 2014 World Telecommunication Development Conference, to be held in Manama, Bahrain, from **29-31 October 2013** at the kind invitation of the Government of Bahrain.

Regional Preparatory Meetings are organized in response to Resolution 31 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010) in a bid to achieve greater regional coordination and engage Members in the WTDC-14 process early on. They also seek to identify issues, at the regional level, that need to be addressed to foster the development of telecommunications and of information and communication technologies (ICT), taking into account the expression of pressing needs facing the Member States and Sector Members of the region.

The RPM is expected to identify top priority areas which are essential for the ICT development of the countries of the region. To this end, and to facilitate effective preparations by the Members of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), a draft RPM agenda has been prepared and can be found in Annex.

A one-day Regional Development Forum (RDF) will take place on **28 October 2013**, bringing together multiple stakeholders to discuss trends in telecommunication/ICT development in the region. A draft agenda for the RDF will be available on the meeting website shortly. We hope that a delegation from your country will attend this event as well.

Proposals to the meeting may be made through an online form available on the RPM website at:

<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/WTDC14/RPM-ARB/Pages/default.aspx>

Should you require any further information, your staff may wish to contact Mr. Ebrahim Alhaddad, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for the Arab States, Egypt, (RPM-ARB@itu.int) telephone +20 2 353 71777).

I very much look forward to the participation of your delegation in the RDF and RPM meetings in Manama.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annex: Draft Agenda

Preliminary Draft agenda RPM-ARB 2013

1. Opening ceremony
2. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman
3. Approval of the agenda
4. Consideration of the Time Management Plan
5. Assessment of the implementation of the Hyderabad Action Plan (WTDC-10) and of the WSIS Plan of Action
- 5a Reports on Results of the WTSA-12 and Results of the WCIT-12 that relate to the work of the ITU-D
6. Identification of priority areas
7. Topics for ITU-D future work (including working methods and Study Group questions) linked to the identified priority areas
8. Priority setting for Regional Initiatives
9. Other business

Brahima Sanou
Director