



International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Arab Regional Office (ARO)

Ref.: 018674

Cairo, 4 Feb. 2019

- Arab Administrations of ITU Member States,
- Arab Regulators
- ITU-D Sector Members and Associates
- Academia Institutions
- Regional and International Organizations concerned
- Regional chairs and vice chairs of the Advisory Groups (TSAG, TDAG, RAG) and Study Groups

Subject: ITU Regional Development Forum for Arab Region (RDF-ARB)
Beirut, Lebanon, 19 March 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to invite you to attend the ITU Regional Development Forum for Arab Region (RDF-ARB)-2019, which will take place on 19 March 2019 in Beirut, Lebanon. The RDF serves as a regional coordination meeting for ITU members to review its 2019 operational plan, in addition to the strategic and future directions of the implementation of ITU regional operational plan 2019-2022 including, the proposed programs and activities for the implementation of the Arab Regional Initiatives (RIs). Moreover, it provides an opportunity for high-level dialogue between the ITU members and other stakeholders from the Arab region to synergize efforts, seek new partnerships and agree on priority areas for the coming period.

This year's RDF is organized as part of the activities of the Arab High-level Forum (AHLF) on the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from 19 to 21 March 2019 in Beirut, Lebanon. AHLF is organized and hosted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in collaboration with the ITU Arab Regional Office. The purpose of AHLF is to promote the implementation of the WSIS and the SDGs in the Arab region. For further information on AHLF ([click here](#)).

Please note that all the information related to the RDF such as the draft Agenda, Fellowship Request Form, Information Note, Online Registration link, the Hotel Reservation Form and Visa information, will be available on the Forum's website ([click here](#)).

We encourage you to participate and to register in both of these events through the link mentioned above. Please note that the deadline for registration is **5 March 2019**.

In order to facilitate the participation of delegates from the Arab Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Low Income Countries (LICs) in these events, there will be a limited number of **Full Fellowships** to cover the travel and accommodation expenses of one delegate from each LDCs/LICs covering the period from 19 to 21 March 2019. The interested countries should fill in the Fellowship Request Form, which is available on the RDF's website mentioned above and return it to ITU no later than **1 March 2019**.

Should you require any further information on the Forum and the above events, please do not hesitate to contact: Mr. Karim Abdelghani, Programme Coordinator at ITU Arab Regional Office, E-mail (karim.abdelghani@itu.int).

Looking forward to your active participation and fruitful contribution in these important events.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E. Al Haddad', with a horizontal line underneath.

Ebrahim Al Haddad
Regional Director
ITU Arab Regional Office