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| **Telecommunication StandardizationBureau** |  |

 Geneva, 10 July 2012

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| Ref:Contact:Tel:Fax:E-Mail: | **TSB Circular 299**Bilel Jamoussi+41 22 730 6311+41 22 730 5853tsbsgd@itu.int  | **To:** - Administrations of Member States of the Union- ITU-T Sector Members- ITU-T Associates- ITU-T Academia- Regional telecommunication organizations- Intergovernmental organizations operating satellite systems- The United Nations- Specialized Agencies of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency |
|  |  | **Copy to:**- Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups- Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau- Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau |

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| Subject: | **Global Standards Symposium (GSS-12)Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 19 November 2012** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Secretary-General of ITU by [Circular letter No. 65](http://www.itu.int/oth/T260B000065/en) and letters [DM-11/1028](http://www.itu.int/oth/T260B001028/en) and
[DM-11/1029](http://www.itu.int/oth/T260B001029/en) of 16 December 2011 has announced that at the kind invitation of the Government of the United Arab Emirates, and pursuant to Resolution 77 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and the Council Resolution 1335, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA‑12) will take place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 20 to 29 November 2012, preceded by the Global Standards Symposium on 19 November 2012.

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the Global Standards Symposium (GSS) which will be held at the same venue as the ITU World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-12) at the Dubai World Trade Center, Dubai, UAE. The purpose of the GSS, as agreed by the 2007 session of ITU Council is to provide a high-level forum for discussion and coordination, open both to members and non-members.

The event will examine, in particular, global ICT standards challenges such as innovation to standards, e-health, smart grid, intelligent transportation systems and resilience of networks to disasters. Speakers at the event will include Ministers, Regulators, CEOs and CTOs. The GSS will be chaired by Mr. Nasser BinAbood, CEO, Etisalat. The draft programme will be posted on the GSS website: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa-12/gss/>.

Registration of participants for GSS will be carried out exclusively ***online***. If you are intending to attend GSS exclusively then please register at the GSS website (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa-12/gss>). If you are intending to attend WTSA-12 as well as GSS, then please use the common registration form for GSS and WTSA-12 (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa-12>).

The WTSA-12 website also contains [practical information](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/wtsa-12/Pages/default.aspx) for the event, including [passport and visa regulations](http://www.wtsa.ae/visa.html) and [hotel details](http://pcoconnect.com/hotels.php).

I look forward to welcoming you in Dubai.

Yours faithfully,

Malcolm Johnson
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau