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| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 17 July 2023 |
| **Ref:**  | **TSB Circular 122**TSB Events/GM | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia.**Copy to:**- The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Study Groups;- The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau;- The Director of the ITU Regional Office for Africa |
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| **Subject:** | **Regional Cybersecurity Summit for Africa (Kampala, Uganda, 20-23 November 2023)** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I am pleased to inform you that, at the kind invitation of the Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) in collaboration with the Uganda Computer Emergency Response Team (UG-CERT) and with the support of AfricaCERT, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is organizing a **“Regional Cybersecurity Summit for Africa”** in Kampala, Uganda from 20 to 23 November 2023.

2 In our progressively interconnected global landscape, cybersecurity is becoming paramount for the safeguarding of delicate data, fortification of vital infrastructure, and bolstering trust in our digital transactions. The ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 130, which underscores the need to reinforce the role of the ITU in building confidence and security in the application of ICTs, acts as a central and guiding principle for this Regional Cybersecurity Summit.

The summit also conforms with multiple other key resolutions, such as [WTSA Resolution 50](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES-T.50-2022) concerning cybersecurity, [WTSA Resolution 58](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES-T.58-2022) advocating for the creation of national computer incident response teams, with particular attention to developing countries, and WTDC Resolution 69 which supports the formation of computer incident response teams (CIRTs), especially in underdeveloped nations, along with fostering their collaboration. The summit also recognizes and abides by WTDC Resolution 45, which endorses enhanced cooperative strategies in the realm of cybersecurity, including fighting and reducing spam.

Furthermore, the summit's goals are aligned with the priorities of Africa's regional initiative 3, which emphasizes trustworthiness, safety, and security in the deployment of telecommunication/ICTs as well as the protection of personal information, and [WTSA Resolution 89](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES-T.89-2022) that proposes the use of ICTs to bridge the gap in financial inclusion.

The objectives of the summit include, but are not limited to;

* introducing the work of ITU-T Study Group 17 and showcasing key standards on security with special focus on [ITU-T Recommendation X.1060](https://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-X.1060/en) on “*Framework for the creation and operation of a cyber defence centre*”;
* facilitating the exchange of best practices, experiences and lessons learned on security baselines for telecommunication operators and security for emerging technologies;
* showcasing the [ITU digital financial services (DFS) security lab](https://figi.itu.int/figi-resources/dfs-security-lab/) and the practical guidance available to developing countries on implementing robust security assurance frameworks for digital financial services;
* exploring approaches to assess cyber resilience of critical infrastructure in telecommunication networks with a focus on infrastructure and application security for digital financial services; and
* providing a platform for cybersecurity experts from the Africa region to strengthen their readiness, resilience and coordination in response to safeguard critical infrastructure and respond to emerging threats in the cybersecurity landscape.

3 The Summit will be composed of the following events:

* **20 November 2023:** ITU Workshop on “*Strengthening security in the digital economy*”
* **21 November 2023:** Security learning lab on “*Digital financial services*”
* **22 November 2023:** CyberDrill
* **23 November 2023:** Meeting of ITU-T Study Group 17 Regional Group for Africa (SG17RG-AFR)

[Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/gap/Pages/default.aspx) training sessions with special focus on the practical implementation of ITU-T Security Recommendations into national frameworks will also take place during the Summit.

4 The summit is targeted at representatives from telecommunications regulators, national cybersecurity agencies, ministries, service and solution providers and vendors, academia, R&D institutions and other organizations working on matters related to security. Participation is free of charge and is open (from 20 to 22 November 2023) to all interested stakeholders, including ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions and to any individual from a country that is a member of ITU and who wishes to contribute to the work.

**Representatives of Member States, Sector Members and Academia from the African region, as well as Associates that belong to Study Group 17 and the African region, in addition to participants invited by the regional group, may participate in the SG17RG-AFR meeting on 23 November 2023 as defined in** [**WTSA Resolution 54 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)**](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES-T.54-2022) **(Resolves 4-6).**

5 All relevant information pertaining to these events (draft programme, speakers, registration link) will be made available on the webpage here: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/2023/1120/Pages/default.aspx>.

The webpage will be updated regularly as more information becomes available. Participants are encouraged to check the webpage periodically for updates.

6 General information for participants, including hotel accommodation, transportation and visa requirements is available on the ITU website mentioned above.

Registration is mandatory for all participants planning to attend the workshop. You are invited to complete the online registration form at: <https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/registration.aspx?Event=C-00012871> as soon as possible.

**Early registration is encouraged for onsite attendance** and, to enable the host to make the necessary logistics arrangements, **registration for on-site attendance** is requested to be completed by **1 November 2023 at the latest**.Please note that pre-registration of participants for our events is carried out exclusively online.

**Please note that separate registration is required to participate in the Meeting of ITU-T Study Group 17 Regional Group for Africa (SG17RG-AFR).** More information on the regional group meeting is available on the SG17RG-AFR webpage: <http://itu.int/go/tsg17rgafr>.

7 I would like to remind you that citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa in order to enter and spend any time in Uganda. The visa must be obtained from the office (embassy or consulate) representing Uganda in your country or, if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of departure. Additional information on visa requirements is available on the event website under the section “**Practical Information”**.

Yours faithfully,

Seizo Onoe
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau