

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



*Telecommunication
Development Bureau*

Place des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Telephone +41 22 730 5111
Telefax Gr3: +41 22 733 7256
Gr4: +41 22 730 6500

Date: 11 August 2008

Page 1/5

Ref: DM-167

To : ITU Member States, Sector Members and
Associates in Europe and CIS

Fax: See list.

For your reply:

Contact: Mr Andrei Untila
ITU Area Office for Europe and CIS

E-mail: andrei.untila@itu.int

Fax: +7 495 540 6073 Tel.: +7 495 540 6072

Ms Christine Sund
ICT Applications and Cybersecurity Division
Policies and Strategies Department

E-mail: cybmail@itu.int

Fax: +41 22 730 5484 Tel.: +41 22 730 5203

Subject: ITU Regional Cybersecurity Forum for Europe and CIS in Sofia, Bulgaria, 7-9 October 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), we would like to invite you to participate in the **ITU Regional Cybersecurity Forum for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)**, to be held **from 7 to 9 October 2008** in Sofia, Bulgaria. The meeting is being hosted by the State Agency for Information Technology and Communications (SAITC), Republic of Bulgaria and organized in collaboration with the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA).

The purpose of the Forum is to identify the main challenges faced by countries in the region in developing frameworks for cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection (CIIP), to consider best practices, share information on development activities being undertaken by ITU as well as other entities, and review the role of various actors in promoting a culture of cybersecurity.

At the start of the 21st century, modern societies have a growing dependency on information and communication technologies (ICTs) that are globally interconnected. This interconnectivity creates interdependencies and risks that must be managed at national, regional and international levels. At the national level, each nation should consider organizing itself to take coordinated action related to the prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from cyber incidents. Such action require coordination and cooperation among national participants, including, those in government, business, and other organizations, as well as individual users, who develop, own, provide, manage, service and use information systems and networks. The formulation and implementation by all nations of a national framework for cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection represents a first step in addressing the challenges arising from globally interconnected ICT infrastructures.

This meeting, is being held in response to the ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 130: ***Strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies*** (Antalya, 2006) and the 2006 World Telecommunication Development Conference Doha Action Plan establishing ITU-D Study Group Question 22/1: ***Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity.***

This event is expected to bring together government representatives, industry actors, and other stakeholder groups from countries in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States to discuss, share information, and collaborate on the elaboration and implementation of national policy, regulatory and enforcement frameworks for cybersecurity and CIIP. It will benefit information and communication policy makers from ministries and government departments; institutions and departments dealing with cybersecurity policies, legislation and enforcement; and representatives from operators, manufacturers, service providers, industry and consumer associations involved in promoting a culture of cybersecurity.

The meeting will also consider initiatives at the regional and international level to increase cooperation and coordination amongst different stakeholders.

The forum will be conducted in English and Russian with simultaneous interpretation. A draft forum timetable is enclosed and more detailed information about the event, including on the online pre-registration, fellowship application and forum schedule is found in the annexes. Additional information is available on the event website at www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2008/sofia/. We encourage you to consult this website, including information on the ITU National Cybersecurity/CIIP Self-Assessment Toolkit, before the meeting.

We look forward to your active participation and invaluable contribution.

Yours sincerely,

[original signed]

Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid

Director

Annexes: 1

Annex I

Pre-Registration and Fellowship Applications

Forum participation is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, and Associates in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, as well as other interested stakeholders, including representatives from regional and international organizations.

We are pleased to inform you that ITU will provide one full fellowship for each eligible delegation duly authorized by the respective ITU Administrations in low income countries (LICs) in the Commonwealth of independent States, subject to available budget, for participating in this workshop. The number of delegates from a country is not limited, however, the country will bear all costs of additional delegates. Ideally a country would send representatives reflecting the major functions in cybersecurity referenced in the bulleted points above. It is expected that each delegation be familiar with their national cybersecurity-related initiatives.

The meeting pre-registration and fellowship request form can be found at www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2008/sofia/registration/

Online forum registrations and fellowship application should be made as soon as possible, but not later than 10 September 2008. Countries requiring assistance to attend the meeting should contact Andrei Untila, ITU Area Office for CIS in Moscow, Russian Federation, on telephone: +7 495 540 6072 or e-mail: andrei.untila@itu.int with copy to cybmail@itu.int.

Contributions

Electronic contributions to the meeting on national cybersecurity experiences are solicited. Please send these to cybmail@itu.int before **15 September 2008**.

Draft Forum Agenda

The full agenda with a short description of the content of each session can be found at www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2008/sofia/agenda.html

Practical Information for Meeting Participants

Practical information for participants is available at www.itu.int/ITU-D/cyb/events/2008/sofia/practical-information.html