

# INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



*Telecommunication  
Development Bureau*

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Ref: DM-123  
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To:  
- Administrations of Member States of the Union;  
- ITU-D Sector Members and Associates;  
- Regional Organizations

Subject: **ITU-D Regional Development Forum for the Africa Region: “NGN and Broadband, Opportunities and Challenges”, Lusaka (Zambia), 18 and 19 May 2009**

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that, at the kind invitation of the Communications Authority of Zambia (CAZ), the ITU-D Regional Development Forum on “NGN and Broadband, Opportunities and Challenges” will be held on 18 and 19 May 2009 in Lusaka (Zambia).

The main aim of this regional development forum is to inform participants of the latest technological developments in the telecommunication sphere, particularly network migration to NGN and the implementation of broadband infrastructures. This should facilitate the elaboration of deployment strategies in each country within the framework of the objectives set by the "Connect Africa" Summit held in Kigali in October 2007. The forum will also lay emphasis on exchanges of experience in regard to the technical, economic and regulatory aspects of the multimedia networks and services.

The Regional Development Forum is opened to all ITU Member States, Sector Members and Associates, as well as to any individual from an ITU Member State wishing to contribute to the work (no registration fee). Individuals belonging to international, regional or national organizations may also participate. The Academia and all associated and related Institutions are all welcome.

The discussions will be held in English and French with simultaneous interpretation. Please note that the Regional Development Forum is a paperless event. All documents and their updated versions will be posted at: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/tech/indexDevelopmentForum.html>. Documents which are not provided online will be available in paper form during the meeting.

Additional information with respect to programme, entry visa, registration, fellowships, hotel reservation as well as other practical and general information can be found as follows:

- Draft programme for the meeting in **Annex 1**;
- Practical and general information and entry visa requirements for Zambia in **Annex 2**;
- Hotel and transfer reservation form in **Annex 3**;

- Fellowships: please note that ITU will provide a limited number of **partial fellowships** (one fellowship per eligible country: least developed country or low income country). You are kindly requested to nominate your candidate by filling the form in **Annex 4**;
- Registration form in **Annex 5**.

Please note that the above-mentioned forms should be filled and returned to the respective focal points (see details in the forms) as soon as possible, **and no later than 30 April 2009**.

As 17<sup>th</sup> May 2009, preceding the forum is Telecommunication/ICTs Day, the CAZ, Host Administration, would like to extend an invitation to all participants who would like to exhibit their products and services during the event and through out the Forum. For further details please contact Ms. Ngabo Nankonde, e-mail; [nnankonde@caz.zm](mailto:nnankonde@caz.zm), Tel +260 211 246697, Fax; +260 211 246701

For any further information, or should you require any clarification, please contact one of the following:

**For ITU:**

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Yours faithfully,

*Original letter signed by:*

Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid  
Director

**Annexes: 5**