

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

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To: All CEO's of International Organizations Fax:

For your reply:

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Subject: Third Annual Meeting of Regional Regulators' Associations
13 November, 2005, Yasmine Hammamet, Tunisia

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to the third annual meeting of Regional Regulators' Associations to be held at the Medina Conference Centre, Yasmine Hammamet, Tunisia. The meeting is scheduled to take place on the afternoon of 13 November 2005 from 14h00 to 16h30, just before the commencement of the sixth annual Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR 2005) on 14–15 November 2005.

The feedback that I have received from the two previous meetings indicates that these have been resourceful in addressing topical issues that are faced by regulators in the discharge of their business. This is very apt, as regulatory institutions continue to experience remarkable challenges due to the emergence of new technologies, introduction of competition, and a rapidly converging ICT sector.

In response to this, the ITU is collaborating with *infoDev* in the development of a toolkit on key regulatory issues. The modules to be developed will cover legal and institutional aspects of regulation; interconnection, price regulation and competition; new technologies and their impact on regulation; and radio spectrum management. A module on authorisations is already available. The remaining modules are scheduled to come online between now and 2006. A demonstration of the toolkit will be made at this meeting.

Another key element that has also emerged from these meetings is the value in exchanging experiences and skill among regulators, as a tool for capacity building. In order to promote this practice, this aspect shall be highlighted with a report on the Regulator's Exchange Programme that was launched this year. In addition, the results of the joint ITU-APEC-OECD meeting on cooperation initiatives against SPAM will be presented. This meeting will take place on the morning of 13 November 2005.

We believe that avenues for collaboration are on the increase, and will call for resource mobilization in their implementation, as we continue to be presented with proposals for projects and initiatives from various regions. Cognizant of your active interest in the field of ICT, I would like to invite you to join us at this meeting and make a brief presentation on the support – financial and in-kind - that your organization has set aside for regional initiatives and projects. Information on your policies and procedures of accessing the support would also be very useful to the attending members.

As in the past, I shall be looking forward to fruitful deliberations and valuable contribution to both this meeting and the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR). More information on this meeting can be found at: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/treg/>.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed by Mr H. I. Toure, BDT Director]

Hamadoun I. Touré
Director