

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

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

Dear Sir/Madam

I am pleased to invite you to the third meeting of regional regulators' associations that will be held at the Medina Conference Centre in Yasmin 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 annual Global Symposium of Regulators (GSR) on 14–15 November 2005.

The feedback that I have received from the two previous meetings indicates that these meetings 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.

I invite you to report on your past year activities and on the way forward. Should you wish to be allocated a slot in the programme, please make your indication by September 15, 2005 by sending e-mail to Mercy.Wanjau@itu.int. Kindly remit the registration form to the secretariat by October 10, 2005.

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 registration for this meeting can be found on this link: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/treg/>.

Yours faithfully,

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

Hamadoun I. Touré
Director