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| ITU logo | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 2 March 2017 |
| Ref: | **TSB Circular 12**TSB Workshops/DA | - To Administrations of Member States of the Union;- To ITU-T Sector Members;- To ITU-T Associates;- To ITU Academia |
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| E-mail: | tsbworkshops@itu.int  | **Copy:**- To the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups;- To the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- To the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau- To the Director of the ITU Regional Office for Arab States |
| Subject: | **SG11 Regional Workshop for Africa on "Counterfeit ICT Devices, Conformance and Interoperability Testing Challenges in Africa" Cairo, Egypt, 5 April 2017** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I would like to inform you that ITU-T SG11 Regional Workshop for Africa on **"Counterfeit ICT Devices, Conformance and Interoperability Testing Challenges in Africa"** will take place in Cairo, Egypt, on 5 April 2017.

The Workshop will be followed by the SG11RG-AFR meeting on 6 April 2017, the goal of which is to encourage the involvement of developing countries in standardization activities within their regions, and to submit written contributions to the parent ITU-T SG11. Both events will be kindly hosted by National Telecom Regulatory Authority of Egypt ([NTRA](http://www.tra.gov.eg/en/industry)) and will take place at the Novotel Cairo, Cairo Airport Road, Heliopolis, 11776 Cairo, Egypt.

The workshop will open at 0930 hours on the first day. Participants’ registration will begin at 0830 hours. Detailed information concerning the meeting rooms will be displayed on the notice boards at the entrance of the venue.

2 Discussions will be held in English only. Unfortunately, no remote participation is anticipated.

3 Participation is open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions and to any individual from a country that is a member of ITU who wishes to contribute to the work. This includes individuals who are also members of international, regional and national organizations. Participation at the workshop is free of charge.

4 This workshop is being organised with the aim of:

* soliciting views, proposals and ideas from ITU members and other experts from the Africa region in order to establish a good grasp of the nature of the problem;
* understanding new trends and mechanisms in ICT counterfeiting, tampering and/or duplication of unique device identifiers;
* understanding mechanisms to secure supply‑chain management (from manufacturing to importation, distribution and marketing) to ensure traceability, security, privacy and trust for people, products and networks;
* determining whether or not conformance and interoperability programmes constitute feasible technical solutions to combat counterfeit ICT devices;
* continuing to raise awareness of the problem of counterfeiting of ICT devices and the dangers they pose;
* raising awareness of the Joint ITU/IEC Assessment and Certification Task Force; and

creating awareness of on-going studies and encouraging the use of meeting outcomes as a basis for written contributions to ITU-T SG11.

5 The participation of vendors and manufacturers, research institutions and academia, laboratories, regulators, operators, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), customs authorities and security agencies, national standards and conformity assessment bodies, and other such similar organizations within the region are welcomed.

6 A draft programme of the workshop, as well as detailed information on hotel accommodation, transportation, visa and health-related requirements are made available on the event [website](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/20170405/Pages/default.aspx). This website will be regularly updated as new or modified information become available. Participants are requested to check periodically for updates.

More details on the co-located SG11 Regional Group meeting (SG11RG-AFR) on 6 April 2017 may be found on its [homepage](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2017-2020/11/sg11rgafr/Pages/default.aspx).

7 To enable TSB and the host to make the necessary arrangements concerning the organization of the workshop, I should be grateful if you would register via the [online form](http://itu.int/reg/tmisc/3000957) as soon as possible, but **not later than 23 March 2017. Please note that pre-registration of participants to workshops is carried out exclusively *online*.**

8 I would remind you that citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa in order to enter and spend any time in Egypt. The visa must be requested and obtained from the Egyptian Embassy in your country, or if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of departure (See ITU-T website: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/standardization/20170402/Pages/default.aspx> for detailed information on visa requirements.)

Participants who are nationals of countries where there is no Egyptian representation should contact Mr. Basel El-Tabei via e-mail: Beltabie@tra.gov.eg or landline: +20235344261 for the special arrangements made by the host country to facilitate the delivery of visas or entry permits, as required.

Yours faithfully,

Chaesub Lee
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau