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| ITU logo | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 28 July 2017 |
| Ref: | **TSB Circular 32**TSB Workshops/VM | **To:**- To Administrations of Member States of the Union;- To ITU-T Sector Members;- To ITU-T Associates;- To ITU Academia |
| Contact: | **Vijay Mauree** |
| Tel: | +41 22 730 5591 |
| Fax: | +41 22 730 5853 |
| E-mail: | tsbworkshops@itu.int figi-symposium@itu.int | **Copy:**- To the Chairmen 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 Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific |
| Subject: | **First Financial Inclusion Global Initiative (FIGI) Symposium: Innovative Approaches to Digital Financial Inclusion Challenges, Bangalore, India, 29 November ‒ 1 December 2017** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I would like to inform you that the **First Financial Inclusion Global Initiative (FIGI) Symposium** will take place at the JW Marriott Hotel, 24/1, Vittal Mallya Rd, KG Halli, Shanthala Nagar, Ashok Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560001, Bangalore, India, from 29 November to
1 December 2017, inclusive.

The theme of the event is *Innovative Approaches to Digital Financial Inclusion Challenges*, highlighting the need to leverage information and communication technologies (ICTs) and new approaches to financial inclusion.

The FIGI Symposium will open at 0900 hours on the first day. Participant registration will begin at 0800 hours at the JW Marriott Hotel.

2 Discussions will be held in English only.

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 in the symposium is free of charge. Please note that participants shall cover their own travel and accommodation expenses. Practical information on accommodation, including logistical details, will also be available on the FIGI Symposium website (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/extcoop/figisymposium/2017/Pages/default.aspx>). Participants needing financial support for their participation should refer to Annexes 1 and 2 for further information.

Participants requiring assistance should contact Mr Vijay Mauree: figi-symposium@itu.int.

4 Information relating to the Symposium, including the provisional programme, will be available on the event website at the following address: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/extcoop/figisymposium/2017/Pages/default.aspx>.

5 The main objectives of the Symposium are to:

* Provide a unique platform for regulators, policymakers and DFS experts to share lessons learned about the different digital financial models and services, the regulatory sandbox approach, ways to mitigate risks in fast-changing ICT and digital payment environments, and the impact of emerging technologies on the ecosystem;
* Showcase digital financial inclusion initiatives and innovations taking place at the international level; and
* Provide thought leadership on digital financial inclusion strategies and technological innovations in the area of DFS.

6 To enable TSB to make the necessary arrangements concerning the organization of the symposium, I should be grateful if you would register via the online form <https://www.itu.int/online/edrs/REGISTRATION/edrs.registration.form?_eventid=3000998>
as soon as possible, but **not later than 14 November 2017.** **Please note that pre-registration of participants for symposiums is carried out exclusively *online*.**

7 I would remind you that citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa in order to enter and spend any time in India. **The visa must be requested at least four (4) weeks before the date of beginning of the symposium** and obtained from the office (embassy or consulate) representing India in your country or, if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of departure. Participants needing a letter of support for their visa should refer to Annexes 1, 2, and 3 for further information.

Yours faithfully,

Chaesub Lee
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau

**Jointly organized with:**  

**Annexes:** 4

**ANNEX 1**

**Funding for participants from least developed and low income countries**

Funding for participants from least developed and low income countriesmay be provided through ITU. Please note that the decision criteria to grant this funding include but are not limited to the following:

1. Available budget;
2. Participation of speakers from Least Developed Countries or low Income Developing Countries (<http://itu.int/en/ITU-T/info/Pages/resources.aspx>);
3. Equitable distribution among countries and regions;
4. Gender balance.

Preference will be given to national regulators and public officials. Funding requests (please use enclosed form in Annex 2) must be returned to ITU no later than **10 September 2017**.

**ANNEX 2**

**FUNDING REQUEST FORM**

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|  | **1st FIGI Symposia****29 November - 1 December 2017****Bangalore, India** |  |
| **Please return to:** | **ITU, Geneva (Switzerland)** | **E-mail:** figi-symposium@itu.int  |
| **Request for funding to be submitted before 10 September 2017** |
| **Note: All fields on the form should be completed****Country:** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Name of the Administration/Organization/Company:** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Title (Mr / Ms) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (family name) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****(given name) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****PASSPORT INFORMATION :****Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Passport number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **Valid until (date): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date of issue: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Place issued: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Please state your interest to participate in the event:** |
| **NOTE:** Applications for funding should be accompanied by a formal letter on your organization’s letterhead confirming your nomination to participate in the FIGI Symposium and a scanned copy of your passport. The letter should be signed by the Head of the organization and bear the official seal/stamp of the organization. Your application will be rejected if the letter confirming your nomination is not provided before the deadline. |
| **Signature of candidate:** | **Date:** |

**ANNEX 3**

**LETTER OF INVITATION FOR VISA REQUEST**

**(Deadline for sending is 30 October 2017)***[Note: Visa approval might take time. Please send your request as soon as possible]*

Please use **CAPITAL** letters.

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| --- | --- |
| Surname & first name(s): |   |
| Gender: |  |
| Position: |   |
| Organization: |   |
| Address: |  |
| Telephone: |  |
| Fax: |  |
| Nationality: |  |
| Passport number: |  |
| Date of issue: |  |
| Place of issue: |  |
| Date of expiry: |  |
| Country & city where you will obtain the visa: |  |
| Date of birth: |  |
| Place of birth: |  |
| Date of arrival: |  |
| Date of departure: |  |

All requests for letter of invitation for visa purposes must be addressed to Mr Mayank Mirnalby e-mail: mayank.mrinal@nic.in with copy to ITU: figi-symposium@itu.int, bearing the words **“Letter of support for visa”** as the subject and should be sent before the deadline of **30 October 2017**. **The email should also include as attachments the duly completed form above, specifying the name as written in the passport, date of birth, passport number, dates of issue and expiry of the passport of the individual(s) for whom the visa(s) is/are requested and a copy of the notification of confirmation of registration for the FIGI Symposia.**

**ANNEX 4**

**Provisional Programme**

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| **Day 1** |
| 08:00 – 09:00 | **Registration**  |
| 09:00 – 11:00 | **Security, Infrastructure and Trust WG meeting** | **Capacity Building Track**Implementation of Level One-aligned projects around the world Organizer: Gates Foundation |
| 11:00 – 11:15 | **Coffee Break** |
| 11:15 – 13:15 | **Security, Infrastructure and Trust WG meeting** | **Capacity Building Track**Addressing competition issues in DFS Organizer: ITU |
| 13:15 – 14:15 | **Lunch** |
| 14:15 – 15:45 | **Security, Infrastructure and Trust WG meeting** | **Digital Identity WG meeting** | **Electronic Merchant Payment WG meeting** | **Capacity Building Track** |
| 15:45 – 16:00 | **Coffee Break** |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | **Security, Infrastructure and Trust WG meeting** | **Digital Identity WG meeting** | **Electronic Merchant Payment WG meeting** | **Capacity Building Track** |
| 17:00 – 19:00 | **Digital Identity WG meeting** | **Electronic Merchant Payment WG meeting** |

**NOTE:** The Sessions for the Security, Infrastructure and Trust Working Group meeting, Digital Identity Working Group meeting and the Electronic Merchant Payment Working Group Meeting are closed meetings and not open to the public.

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| **Day 2** |
| 08:00 – 09:00 | **Registration**  |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | **Opening Plenary*** Welcome
* Keynote Address: Resource person from India
* Keynote Panel Discussion: Setting the Scene
 |
| 10:30 – 10:55 | **Coffee Break**  |
| 10:55 – 12:30 | **Knowledge Track 1: Security, Infrastructure and Trust** |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | **Lunch** |
| 13:30 – 15:00 | **Knowledge Track 2: Digital Identity** |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | **Coffee Break** |
| 15:15 – 16:45 | **Knowledge Track 3: Electronic Payments Acceptance** |
| 16:45 – 18:15 | **High Level Roundtable: *Tackling Unlicensed Fraudulent Digital Investment Schemes*** |
| 19:00 | **Networking Reception** |

| **Day 3: Thematic Workshops** |
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| 09:00 – 10:30 | **Regtech approach to DFS**Financial authorities want to better monitor and understand financial marketplaces that are increasingly complex and innovative. The future of financial supervision and policymaking lies in using technology and data to improve the quality and comprehensiveness of information to support targeted, risk-based decision-making. This session will explore how a Regtech approach allows financial authorities to understand marketplaces and understand customer experiences and needs in digital financial services. |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | **Coffee Break** |
| 10:50 – 12:50 | **Gender issues in Digital Financial Services (DFS)**ICTs are recognized worldwide as a catalyst to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goal 5 to achieve gender equality. The main objectives of this session will be to discuss how to overcome the barriers to increase adoption and usage of digital financial services by women and what actions are required from the key stakeholders at the national level to enhance women’s financial inclusion through DFS. |
| 12:50 – 14:00 | **Lunch** |
| 14:00 – 15:30 | **Social media networks and financial inclusion**Social networks enable users to chat, share photos, and perform similar social activities. As social networks mature, they are adding new features such as P2P payments. Social networks have become enormously popular and are themselves bigger than the largest eCommerce companies in the world. The main objectives of this session will be to discuss the potential that social media networks could have in financial inclusion. |
| 15:30 – 15:45 | **Coffee Break** |
| 15:45 – 17:20 | **DFS Country Showcases**This session will showcase digital financial services innovations in different countries and the impact these have had on advancing financial inclusion and on improving the quality of lives of the people.  |

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