|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | | **International telecommunication union**  **Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** | |  |
|  | | | Geneva, 29 March 2019 | |
| Ref: | **TSB Circular 162**  TSB Events/CB | | **To:**  - Administrations of Member States of the Union;  - ITU-T Sector Members;  - ITU-T Associates;  - ITU Academia | |
| Contact: | **Cristina Bueti** | |
| Tel: | +41 22 730 6301 | |
| Fax: | +41 22 730 5853 | |
| E-mail: | [u4ssc@itu.int](mailto:u4ssc@itu.int) | |
|  |  | | **Copy to:**  - The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of ITU-T Study Groups;  - The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;  - The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau; | |
| Subject: | **13th Symposium on ICT, Environment and Climate Change  Geneva, Switzerland, 13 May 2019** | | | |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I am pleased to inform you that­ the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), together with Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, UN Environment, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, United Nations Industrial Development Organization and UN-Women, is organizing the **13th Symposium on ICT, Environment and Climate Change.** This eventwill take place from 1100 to 1730 hours on **13 May 2019** in **Geneva, Switzerland**. The theme of this year’s Symposium is “The role of frontier technologies in combating climate change and achieving a circular economy”.

This Symposium will be collocated with the upcoming [ITU-T Study Group 5](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2017-2020/05/Pages/default.aspx): Environment, Climate Change and Circular Economy meeting taking place from 13 to 22 May 2019.

2 This Symposium will be held in English only. Remote participation will be offered for this Symposium.

3 Participation in the Symposium 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 but no fellowships will be granted for the Symposium.

4 The objective of the Symposium is to stimulate global dialogues on using frontier technologies to accelerate climate and circular economy actions.

5 Information relating to the Symposium, including the draft programme and practical information, will be available on the event website at the following address: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/climatechange/symposia/201905/Pages/default.aspx>. This website will be updated regularly as new or modified information becomes available. Participants are encouraged to check the website periodically for the latest updates.

6 To enable ITU to make the necessary arrangements concerning the organization of the Symposium, I should be grateful if you would register via the [online form here](https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Registration.aspx?Event=C-00005905) as soon as possible, but **no later than 9 May 2019.** **Please note that pre-registration of participants for the symposium is mandatory and 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 Switzerland. **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 Switzerland in your country or, if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of departure.

If problems are encountered by **ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates or Academic Institutions**, and at the official request made by them to TSB, the Union can approach the competent Swiss authorities in order to facilitate delivery of the visa, but only within the period mentioned of **four** **weeks**. Any such request should be made by checking the corresponding box on the registration form **no later than 12 April 2019**. Enquiries should be sent to the ITU Travel Section ([travel@itu.int](mailto:travel@itu.int)), bearing the words “**visa support**”.

Yours faithfully,

Chaesub Lee  
Director of the Telecommunication  
Standardization Bureau