|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 19 December 2022 |
| Ref: | **TSB Collective letter 1/SG3RG-ARBSG3/MA** | * To Administrations participating in SG3RG‑ARB;
* To ITU-T Sector Members participating in SG3RG-ARB;
* To ITU-T Associates participating in SG3RG-ARB;
* To ITU Academia participating in SG3RG-ARB;
* To the ITU Regional Office for Arab States, Cairo, Egypt;
 |
| Tel: | +41 22 730 6828 |
| Fax: | +41 22 730 5853 |
| E-mail: | tsbsg3@itu.int |
| Web: | <https://itu.int/go/tsg03><https://www.itu.int/en/itu-t/regionalgroups/sg03-arb>  |
| **Subject**: | **Meeting of ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for the Arab Region (SG3RG-ARB)Manama, Bahrain, 30 to 31 January 2023** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that, at the kind invitation of Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) of Bahrain, the next meeting of **ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for the Arab Region** **(SG3RG-ARB)**, which will meet in **Manama, Bahrain, from 30 to 31 January 2023**.

The meeting will be held in conjunction with the **ITU Workshop on Economic & Policy Issues of Digital Transformation** taking place on **29 January 2023**.

Additional information is set forth in **Annex A**, and a draft agenda – prepared by the SG3RG-ARB Chairman, Mr. Ahmed Said (Egypt) – can be found in **Annex B**.

Practical information relating to the meeting will be posted on the SG3RG-ARB web page at: <https://www.itu.int/en/itu-t/regionalgroups/sg03-arb>.

Participation in the SG3RG-ARB meeting is restricted to delegates and representatives of Administrations and Sector Members of the region, in conformity with clause 2.3.2 of Section 2 of ITU-T Resolution 1 (Rev. Geneva, 2022).

Participation in the workshop is free of charge, and open to any participants who share an interest in international telecommunication/ICT economic and policy issues.

**Key deadlines**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2 January 2023 | - Registration (online via the [regional group homepage](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-t/regionalgroups/sg03-arb))- Submit fellowship requests (via the form on the [regional group homepage](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-t/regionalgroups/sg03-arb)) |
| 17 January 2023 | - Submit ITU-T Member contributions (by e-mail to tsbsg3@itu.int) |

I wish you a productive and enjoyable meeting.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yours faithfully, Chaesub LeeDirector of the TelecommunicationStandardization Bureau |  ITU-T SG3RG-ARB |
| Latest meeting information |

**Annexes:** 2

ANNEX A
Practical meeting information

**WORKING METHODS AND FACILITIES**

**DOCUMENT SUBMISSION AND ACCESS**:Member Contributions and draft TDs should be submitted by e-mail to tsbsg3@itu.int using the [appropriate template](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/Pages/templates.aspx). Access to meeting documents is provided from the study group homepage, and is restricted to ITU-T Members who have an [ITU user account](http://www.itu.int/TIES/) with TIES access.

**WORKING LANGUAGE**: In agreement with the Chairman of the Group, the working language of the meeting will be Arabic.

**WIRELESS LAN** facilities and Internet access will be available at the venue of the event.

**PRE-REGISTRATION, FELLOWSHIPS AND VISA SUPPORT**

**PRE-REGISTRATION**: Pre-registration is mandatory and is to be done online **via** [**the regional group homepage**](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-t/regionalgroups/sg03-arb) at **least one month before the start of the meeting**. As outlined in [TSB Circular 68](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSB-CIR-0068), the ITU-T registration system requires focal-point approval for registration requests; [TSB Circular 118](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-TSB-CIR-0118) describes how to set up automatic approval of these requests. Some options in the registration form apply only to Member States. Members are encouraged to consider gender balance and the inclusion of delegates with disabilities and with specific needs whenever possible.

**FELLOWSHIPS**: To facilitate participation from [eligible countries](https://www.itu.int/en/fellowships/Documents/2022/ListEligibleCountries2022.pdf), up to two partial fellowships per country may be awarded, within the **Arab Region only**, subject to available funding. A partial in-person fellowship will cover either a) the air ticket (one return economy class ticket by the most direct/economical route from the country of origin to the meeting venue), or b) an appropriate daily subsistence allowance (intended to cover accommodation, meals and incidental expenses). The applicant's organization is responsible to cover the remaining participation costs.

In line with Plenipotentiary Resolution 213 (Dubai, 2018), it is encouraged that fellowship nominations take into consideration gender balance and inclusion of persons with disabilities and with specific needs. The criteria to grant a fellowship include: available ITU budget; active participation, including the submission of relevant written contributions; equitable distribution among countries and regions; application by persons with disabilities and specific needs; and gender balance. **Preference will be given to applicants attending all the ITU events in Manama, 29-31 January 2023.**

Request forms for fellowships are available from the [regional group homepage](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-t/regionalgroups/sg03-arb). **Fellowship requests must be received by 2 January 2023 at the latest**, sent by e-mail to fellowships@itu.int or by fax to +41 22 730 57 78. **Registration (approved by the focal point) is required before submitting a fellowship request**, and it is strongly recommended to register for the event and to start the request process at least seven weeks before the meeting.

**VISA SUPPORT**: As this meeting is organized outside Switzerland, visa support requests are to be addressed directly to the host of the meeting. Instructions can be found in the “Practical information” section on the regional group webpage at: <https://www.itu.int/en/itu-t/regionalgroups/sg03-arb>

**ANNEX B
Draft Agenda
Meeting of ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for the Arab Region (SG3RG-ARB),
Manama, 30 to 31 January 2023**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | *Agenda item* |
|  | Opening of the meeting |
|  | Adoption of the agenda |
|  | Available documents (Contributions and TDs) |
|  | Overview of ITU-T Study Group 3 and working methods |
|  | Review of previous SG3 parent and Regional Group meetings |
|  | Status of SG3 work programme |
|  | Economic impact of OTTs |
|  | Tariff, Charging Issues of Settlements Agreement of Trans-multi-country Terrestrial Telecommunication Cables |
|  | Mobile Financial Services |
|  | International Roaming |
|  | Relevant market definition and identification of operators with Significant Market Power (SMP) |
|  | Big Data and Digital Identity |
|  | International Internet Connectivity |
|  | Dispute Resolution |
|  | Economic Impact of License Pricing |
|  | Future Work Programme and Action List for SG3RG-ARB |
|  | SG3RG-ARB and Member Contributions to ITU-T Study Group 3 in March 2023 |
|  | Venue and date of next SG3RG-ARB meeting |
|  | Any other business |
|  | Closure of the meeting |

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_