|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 3 August 2022 |
| **Ref:**  | **TSB Circular 031**TSB Events /VM | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia**Copy to:**- The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Study Groups;- The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau;- The Directors of the ITU Regional Offices |
| **Contact:** | **Vijay Mauree** |
| **Tel:** | +41 22 730 5591 |
| **Fax:****E-mail:** | +41 22 730 5853tsbevents@itu.int |
| **Subject:** | **ITU Digital Financial Services Webinar: Telecom data to boost digital and financial inclusion in Africa: Policy & Regulatory Challenges Ahead(Fully Virtual, 21 September 2022)** |
| Dear Sir/Madam,1 I am pleased to inform you that the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in collaboration with the Global Voice Group (GVG) is organizing a Digital Financial Services webinar on “**Telecom data to boost digital and financial inclusion in Africa: Policy & Regulatory Challenges Ahead**” taking place virtually on **21 September 2022 from 15h00 to 16h15 CEST/Geneva time.** 2 Digital Financial Services (DFS) is seen as a powerful tool to enable financial inclusion for emerging economies. However, like any other technology, there are certain risks that regulators both the telecom regulator and central banks, need to work together to address, to ensure consumers are protected and their funds are safe to create trust. Risks such as anti-money laundering, non-compliance, and illicit money flow are some risks facing digital financial services regulators in establishing a trust environment for digital finance and financial inclusion. 3 This session will examine emerging technology solutions such as big data and artificial intelligence that could help regulators in establishing a trust environment for digital finance and financial inclusion and enable them to have a better information at hand on Digital Financial Services transactions and also access to data that could be used for socio-economic development. Regulators who have adopted this solution will also share their experience and lessons learned.4 The workshop is targeted to regulators from telecommunications and financial services sectors, policymakers, digital financial services providers, mobile network operators and Fintech companies. 5 All relevant information pertaining to the event (draft programme, speakers, remote connection details) will be made available on the event webpage here: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/webinars/dfs/20220921/Pages/default.aspx>. The event webpage will be updated regularly as more information becomes available. Participants are encouraged to check the webpage periodically for updates.6 Registration for the event is mandatory and can be accessed here: <https://www.itu.int/net/CRM/js/sr/C-00011750>7 Participation is free of charge and open to all interested stakeholders including ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions and to any individual from a country that is a member of ITU and who wishes to contribute to the work.Yours faithfully,Chaesub LeeDirector of the TelecommunicationStandardization Bureau |