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| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 19 January 2023 |
| **Ref:** | **TSB Circular 67** | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia |
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| **E-mail:** | tsbfgmv@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:** | **1st ITU Forum on Embracing the metaverse** **Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 7 March 2023** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I am pleased to inform you that the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the National Cybersecurity Authority (NCA) are organizing the **first ITU Forum on Embracing the metaverse** which will take place on **7 March 2023 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**. The Forum will be organized as a physical event with remote participation and will be kindly hosted byNCA.

2 The Forum will be followed by the [First Meeting of the ITU-T Focus Group on metaverse (FG-MV)](http://www.itu.int/go/fgmv) which will take place from 8 to 9 March 2023 at the same venue.

3 The objective of the Forum is to stimulate global dialogue on metaverse, providing a platform to:

* explore challenges and opportunities for an accessible, sustainable, and inclusive metaverse;
* foster the development of interoperability standards for an open and inclusive metaverse, and accelerate their development;
* debate the role of the metaverse in transforming consumer experiences and business models across industries;
* discuss how metaverse can be used to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and accelerate digital transformation;
* provide inputs and discuss relevant topics that can help accelerate the work of the ITU Focus Group on metaverse.

4 Participation in the Forum and the Focus Group Meeting 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 and who wishes to contribute to the work. This includes individuals who are also members of international, regional, and national organizations.

5 Information relating to the Forum, including the draft programme, speakers, registration link and remote participation details will be made available on the event webpage here: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/ssc/Pages/1st-forum-metaverse.aspx>. The event webpage will be updated regularly as more information becomes available. Participants are encouraged to check the webpage periodically for updates.

6 To enable the host to make the necessary logistics arrangements, participants are required to register via the online form available on the website page as soon as possible and **not later than 6 March 2023**. Registration is required for all participants. **Please note that pre-registration of participants for the Forum is mandatory and will be carried out exclusively online. This Forum is free of charge**.

7 I would remind you that citizens of some countries are required to obtain a visa to enter and spend time in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. If required, visas must be requested before the date of arrival from the embassy or consulate representing Saudi Arabia in your country or, if there is no such office in your country, from the one that is closest to the country of departure. Deadlines vary, so it is suggested to check directly with the appropriate representation and apply early.

Additional details and documentation needed for visa processing, if any, will be provided in the **“Practical Information”** document for the meeting which will be made available on the event webpage.

Yours faithfully,



Seizo Onoe

Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau