



International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Arab Regional Office (ARO)

Ref.: 018749

Cairo, 16 July 2019

- Arab Administrations of ITU Member States,
- Arab Regulators
- ITU-D Sector Members and Associates
- Academia Institutions
- Regional and International Organizations concerned
- Regional chairs and vice chairs of the Advisory Groups (TSAG, TDAG, RAG) and Study Groups

Subject: ITU Regional Week on Emerging Technologies for Sustainable Development and Digital Transformation in the Arab Region
Dubai-UAE, 26-29 August 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to invite you to the **ITU Regional Week on Emerging Technologies for Sustainable Development and Digital Transformation in the Arab Region**, which will take place in Dubai –UAE, from 26-29 August 2019. The week's activities are hosted by Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) of United Arab Emirates and the University of Dubai and will be organized in collaboration with National Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Egypt (NTRA) and supported by Intel, GSMA, Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship (GIE) and other partners.

This year, the week will focus on the 5th Generation Mobile Technologies (5G) and how it will transform the landscape for the wide scale deployment of Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and Smart Cities particularly in the Arab Region. In addition, the activities associated with this week, will promote the deployment of IoT, Artificial Intelligence and Big Data to establish Smart Cities and Societies in the Arab region with the aim of contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and Digital Transformation as well as the New Urban Agenda in the Arab Region.

The week will consist of a number of activities as follows:

- The 4th ITU Annual Forum on “IoT, Big Data, Smart Cities and Societies” for Arab Region. The forum will consist of a series of panel discussions aiming at sharing experiences and best practices on a variety of topics covering the technical, regulatory and economical parts of the 5G, IoT, Big Data and Smart Cities and Societies.
- A sub-regional Hackathon for the Gulf region on IoT, Big Data and Smart Cities that will be organized as part of the regional “Arab IoT Challenge” activities organized by GIE and IEEE UAE partners and supported by ITU.
- A 2-day 5G Capacity Building Training programme organized by GSMA.

Participation in the week's events are open to ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academic Institutions as well as other relevant stakeholders. Please note that the 5G Capacity Building Training programme organized by GSMA is open only to ICTs regulators, policymakers, government and ministerial officials from the Arab region.

The Forum will be conducted in Arabic and English with simultaneous interpretation.

Please note that all the information related to the week's events such as the **draft programme, fellowship request form, practical information note, online registration link** and **visa information**, will be available on the ITU Arab Regional Office website ([click here](#)).

We encourage you to participate and to register in these events through the link mentioned above. Please note that the deadline for registration is **15 August 2019**.

In order to facilitate the participation of delegates from the Arab Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Low Income Countries (LICs), there will be a limited number of **Full Fellowships** to cover the travel and accommodation expenses of one delegate from each LDCs and LICs. The interested countries should fill in the fellowship request form, which is available on the website mentioned above, sign and validate it and return it to ITU no later than **1 August 2019**.

Should you require any further information on these events, please do not hesitate to contact: Eng. Mustafa Al Mahdi, Programme Administrator at ITU ARO, E-mail (Mustafa-Ahmed.Al-Mahdi@itu.int) and Mr. Abdulla Bin Khadia, International Organizations Officer, TRA UAE (abdulla.binkhadia@tra.gov.ae).

Looking forward to your active participation and fruitful contribution in this important event.

Yours sincerely,



Ebrahim Al Haddad
Regional Director