Ref.:

Geneva, 4 April 2018

- Administrations of ITU Member States in the Asia-Pacific region
- Regulators in the Asia-Pacific region
- ITU-D Sector Members
- ITU-D Associate Members and Academia

Subject: **ITU Asia-Pacific Regional Development Conference 2018 (ASP-RDF-18), 21-22 May 2018, Bangkok, Thailand**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is organizing the ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia-Pacific Region on *"ICTs for Sustainable Development Goals"* (RDF-ASP 2018) that will be held on 21-22 May 2018 at the Sukosol Bangkok Hotel, Thailand. The RDF-ASP 2018 is kindly hosted by the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society (MDES), Thailand.

The objective of the Forum is to provide an opportunity for high-level dialogue between the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and decision-makers, governments and regulators, of ITU Member States, Sector Members and Academia. The RDF serves as a privileged platform for assessing strategic orientations that may have an impact on BDT's regional work plan between World Telecommunication Development Conferences (WTDCs).

As we embark on the ITU Development Sector (ITU-D) Operational Cycle 2018-2021, the Forum will focus on the strategic context for the ITU Members in the Asia-Pacific region provided by the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC-17). The RDF-ASP 2018 will focus on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan (BaAP), with particular emphasis on the Asia-Pacific Regional Initiatives (ASP-RI) 2018-2021 and invites feedback, proposals and recommendations to adjust as well as contribute to the BDT's work in the Asia-Pacific region in the next operational cycle.

Please note that all information related to the Forum, including presentations, practical information and, registration forms will be made available at the ITU website at: http://itu.int/go/asprdf2018

A Provisional Agenda for RDF-ASP 2018 is attached (Annex 1) for your consideration. The Forum will be paperless, conducted in English and will not require any participation fees.

ITU cordially invites your organization to participate in this important forum, and is pleased to provide one full fellowship to one participant duly authorized by the respective ITU Administration from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and eligible Low Income Countries in the Asia Pacific Region, subject to available budget, to facilitate their participation in the Forum. The fellowship application form will also be available on the ITU event website above. Completed fellowship application and registration forms must be received at ITU no later than **30 April 2018**.

Should you require any further information, Mr Wisit Atipayakoon, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (wisit.atipayakoon@itu.int) remains at your disposal.

I look forward to your active participation for the success of the Forum.

Yours faithfully,

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annex: Provisional Agenda