



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/CIS/DM/109

Geneva, 7 August 2019

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- Regulators, ITU Sector Members and Academia
- Regional and International Organizations
- Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Advisory Groups (TSAG, TDAG, RAG) and Study Groups

Subject: ITU Regional Development Forum (RDF-CIS), 1-2 October 2019, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the Regional Development Forum for the Commonwealth of Independent States (RDF-CIS), which is organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and will be held in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, from 1 to 2 October 2019 at the kind invitation of the State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Regional development forums provide an opportunity for high-level dialogue between BDT and decision-makers of ITU Member States and Sector Members as well as other stakeholders. They serve as a platform for assessing strategic orientations that may have an impact on BDT's regional work plan in between world telecommunication development conferences (WTDCs).

In this context, RDF-CIS will report on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Action Plan. Particular emphasis will be placed on the regional initiatives approved by WTDC-17, providing all stakeholders with an opportunity to discuss implementation plans, announce commitments and exchange experiences and best practices. The RDF-CIS will also address, from a regional perspective, the activities related to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG), ITU-D Study Groups, Membership, Partnerships and ITU Centres of Excellence. The draft agenda of the Forum is attached as Annex 1.

RDFs are open to all stakeholders willing to strengthen cooperation and partnerships among telecommunication/ICT policy-makers, regulators, industry, academia, regional and international development agencies and organizations on specific regional telecommunication and ICT matters.

The Forum will be paperless. Documents related to this event, including practical information, agenda and presentations, will be available on the ITU website at www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/CIS/Pages/EVENTS/2019/10_Bishkek/10_Bishkek.aspx

There is no participation fee for this event. However, all expenses related to the travel and accommodation of participants should be covered by your Administration/Organization. Registration will be carried out

exclusively online at the following link: <http://www.itu.int/net4/ITU-D/CDS/meetings/registration/index.asp> Participants are requested to register by **24 September 2019**.

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

In accordance with Resolutions 25 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and 213 (Dubai, 2018) of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, and in order to promote the participation of developing countries in ITU activities, ITU will grant one full or two partial fellowships per eligible country of the CIS region, subject to the availability of funds. An application for a fellowship must be authorized by the relevant Administration. Those intending to apply for a fellowship are required to complete the Fellowship Form (Annex 2) and send it to the ITU Fellowships Service by e-mail: fellowships@itu.int or by fax: +4122 730 57 78 **not later than 3 September 2019**.

Those participants requiring an entry visa to the Kyrgyz Republic are requested to contact the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in their country for information well in advance.

Should you have any questions or need clarifications concerning the venue, accommodation, visa etc., please do not hesitate to contact Mr Myrzakmat Begmatov, Chief Specialist, Department of External Affairs, State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic (e-mail: mbegmatov@gmail.com; phone: +996 312 605 030); and Ms Ainura Sadyrbaeva, Chief Expert, Professional Training Faculty, Institute of Electronics and Telecommunication (e-mail: sad.ainura@gmail.ru; phone: +996 770 87 85 11). For any other questions concerning this event, please contact Mr Farid Nakhli, Programme Officer, ITU Regional Office for CIS Region (e-mail: farid.nakhli@itu.int; phone: +7 495 926 60 70).

I look forward to active participation from your Administration/Organization/Company.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Director

Annexes:

1. Draft agenda