Ref.:   BDT/DDR/EUR/DM/041   Geneva, 24 July 2024

- Administrations of ITU Member States in Europe
- ITU-D Sector Members and Academia in Europe
- National Regulatory Authorities in Europe
- United Nations Funds, Programmes, Specialized agencies and IAEA

Subject: **ITU-EKIP Regional Regulatory Forum for Europe on "Vision for Connectivity: Innovating the Future of Telecom Regulation and Security", 23 - 24 September 2024, Budva, Montenegro**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the pleasure to invite you to participate in the Regional Regulatory Forum for Europe on **"Vision for Connectivity: Innovating the Future of Telecom Regulation and Security"**, which will be held from 23 to 24 September 2024 in Budva, Montenegro. The Forum will be co-organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services (EKIP) of Montenegro.

This Regional Forum will build upon the outcomes of the Global Symposium for Regulators 2024 and its Best Practice Guidelines. The Forum will be held within the framework of the ITU Regional Initiative for Europe on Digital Infrastructure Development which aims to facilitate the attainment of Gigabit connectivity through resilient and synergistic infrastructure development, and an enabling environment ensuring universal coverage.

The event will provide a unique opportunity for high-level dialogue between stakeholders on strategies and policies directed towards broadband development in the region. In this regard, it will facilitate discussions on the challenges and opportunities offered by resilient high-speed networks coupled with regulatory actions that are flexible and collaborative. This event will also offer an opportunity for setting up actions to assist countries on regulatory matters.

It will cover, in particular, the following aspects:

- Trends and Developments in Digital Infrastructure
- Regulatory Strategies for Emerging Telecom Technologies
- Enhancing Quality of Service and Consumer Rights Protection
- Public-Private Partnerships and Submarine Cables
- Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Disaster Resilience

Representatives of European Regulatory Agencies, Ministries, Operators of Electronic Communications, Academia as well as representatives and experts of international organizations and institutions in charge of the regulation and development policy of electronic communications are invited to take part in this Forum.

All stakeholders are invited to participate as a panellist or a lecturer and are requested to kindly send the proposed title of their presentation by **5 September 2024** to conference@ekip.me (cc: eurregion@itu.int) and the presentation itself no later than **15 September 2024**.

Please note that the meeting will be paperless. Documents related to the event, including Agenda, Registration Form and Practical Information for Participants will be posted at ITU-EKIP Regional Regulatory Forum for Europe 2024 and on EKIP's dedicated webpage. The Forum will be conducted in English and Montenegrin with simultaneous interpretation in both languages.

Participants who need an entry visa to Montenegro should contact the nearest embassy or consulate of Montenegro for assistance well in advance. A list of embassies and consulates of Montenegro can be found on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: https://www.gov.me/en/diplomatic-missions/embassies-and-consulates-of-montenegro.

Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder, Head of the ITU Office for Europe (EURregion@itu.int), and Mr. Boris Jevric, Deputy Executive Director, Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services (EKIP) (conference@ekip.me), are at your disposal for any further information you might need.

I look forward to welcoming you in Budva.

Yours faithfully,

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director