



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref. BDT/IEE/RME/DM/315

Geneva, 24 June 2013

To:

- Member States and ITU-D Sector Members;
- Regional and subregional regulators' associations;
- Telecommunication/ICT operators;
- Financial and development institutions;
- Regional and subregional organizations

Subject: 14th Forum on Telecommunication/ICT Regulation and Partnership in Africa (FTRA 2013), back to back with Working Party on Private Sector, Elephant Hills Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 3-6 September 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the African Telecommunication Union (ATU) and the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe are pleased to invite you to the 14th Forum on Telecommunication/ICT Regulation and Partnership in Africa (FTRA 2013), to be held at the Elephant Hills Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, from 3 to 6 September 2013. The theme for the event this year is: ***"Development of broadband and Investments required to support sustained growth"***.

The forum is being organized by the ITU in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Infrastructure Development of the Republic of Zimbabwe in partnership with the African Telecommunications Regulators' Network and the African Regional Working Party on private sector issues. The Working Party on Private Sector will take place on 3 September and the FTRA from 4 to 6 September 2013.

Participation in FTRA 2013 is open to ITU Member States and ITU-D Sector Members, regional and subregional regulators' associations, telecommunication/ICT operators, financial and development institutions and regional and subregional organizations.

The theme for this year's forum was selected on the basis of proposals made by participants in the 13th FTRA, held in Libreville (Gabon), in June 2012.

The topics for discussion this year will include the role of stakeholders and foreign direct investment (FDI) in boosting the development of broadband, the necessary reform to adapt universal service in a broadband environment, the types of partnerships to finance broadband and the economic impact of broadband in Developing Countries.

Participants will further examine the situation and perspectives of ITU African regional initiatives on broadband development and regional interconnectivity and will discuss consumer protection and Quality of Service issues. The detailed provisional programme is attached.

The main objective of the forum is to share experiences and identify best practices for the creation of an enabling environment conducive to investments in ICT infrastructure, applications and services for countries' socio-economic development.

Interpretation will be provided in English and French.

Documents relating to the event and regular updates thereto (information note, provisional programme, registration and hotel reservation forms) will be available on the ITU website at: www.itu.int/ITU-D/afr/events/FTRA/2013.

The meeting will be paperless. Participants are therefore invited to download and print the needed documents before and during the event.

A practical information note concerning the venue can also be found at the above web address. Please pay particular attention to the section on entry visa requirements for Zimbabwe. Please be informed that in addition to the entry visa requirements for Zimbabwe, transit visa shall also be required for all persons transiting through South Africa. Therefore we urge every participant to get in touch with the South Africa Embassy in their area to obtain the transit visa.

In order to benefit from the preferential hotel rates negotiated by the national coordinator for this event, participants are requested to complete the form and return it directly to the selected hotel. The host country will provide transportation between the airport and hotels, and between the hotels and the forum venue, and vice versa, for all delegates. To facilitate the planning and coordination of airport transfers, delegates are requested to fax or e-mail the same form, indicating their flight numbers, dates and times (both arrival and departure) to Mr James Mutandwa MADYA, Deputy Director Communications (Ministry of Transport, Communications and Infrastructure Development/POTRAZ), e-mail: jamesmadya@rocketmail.com, Tel: +263 77 276 8314, with a copy to Ms Chali Tumelo, e-mail: chali.tumelo@itu.int, Tel: +263 4 775941/775939, Fax: +263 4 771257.

I should be grateful if you would return a duly completed copy of the registration form in Annex 2 (one form per participant), not later than 15 August 2013, by email to fra2013@itu.int or by fax to +263 4 771257.

The FTRA team will follow up with your focal point on the requested areas of interest. In ITU, Mr Makhtar Fall, Head, Regulatory and Market Environment, is available to respond to any queries you may have (Tel: +41 22 730 6256, email: makhtar.fall@itu.int), and of course, Ms. Chali Tumelo in ITU Area Office for Southern Africa (Tel: +263 4 775941/775939, Fax: +263 4 771257, e-mail: chali.tumelo@itu.int is also at your disposal.

I look forward to seeing you at the forum.

Yours faithfully,



[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annexes: 2

CCs:



- A. Rugege, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office in Addis
- C. Tumelo, Area Representative, ITU Area Office in Harare

	<p>14th Forum on Telecommunications/ICT Regulation and Partnership in Africa (FTRA 2013)</p> <p><i>"Development of broadband and Investments required to support sustained growth"</i></p> <p>Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 3 - 6 September 2013</p>	
<p>DRAFT AGENDA FTRA 2013</p>		
<p>2 September 2013</p>		
<p>1600 – 1800</p>	<p>DELEGATE REGISTRATION</p>	
<p>Day 1 – 3 September 2013</p>		
<p>0800 – 0900</p>	<p>DELEGATE REGISTRATION</p>	
<p>0900 – 0930</p>	<p>OPENING CEREMONY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– CEO of Postal & Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (POTRAZ)– Dr Jones Killimbe, DG-CEO, RASCOM, Chairman of the African Regional Working Party on Private Sector Issues– Mr Lin Mombo, President of the Regulatory Council, Agence de Régulation des Communications Electroniques et de la Poste (ARCEP), President FTRA– Secretary-General, African Telecommunications Union (ATU)– Mr Brahima Sanou, Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (ITU/BDT)– Representative of H.E. Ministry of Transport, Communications and Infrastructure Development of the Republic of Zimbabwe	
<p>0930 – 0945</p>	<p>Coffee / tea break</p>	
<p>0945 – 1000</p>	<p>Appointment of the Bureau and adoption of the agenda</p>	
<p>1000 – 1100</p>	<p>SESSION 1: Role of stakeholders in boosting the development of broadband (Public Policy, Regulators, Private sector...)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competition policies to stimulate infrastructure investment• Role of government intervention in promoting broadband deployment• Measures to promote supply and demand <p>General discussion</p>	
<p>1100 – 1200</p>	<p>SESSION 2 : Role of foreign direct investment (FDI) in broadband deployment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can developing countries attract FDI?• How can ICTs promote FDI for sustainable development? <p>General discussion</p>	
<p>1200 – 1400</p>	<p>LUNCH BREAK</p>	

1400 – 151500	SESSION 3 : Regulatory reforms / universal service in a broadband environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding mechanisms for universal access to broadband • Access to broadband applications and services General discussion
1515 – 1545	Coffee / tea break
15450 – 1700	SESSION 4: What types of partnerships are needed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) needed to achieve network and service deployments to reach country-wide broadband coverage? • Discussion on best international practices General discussion
Day 2 – 4 September 2013	
0900 – 1030	SESSION 5: Economic Impact of broadband in developing countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and social dimension of broadband • Case Studies and country experiences General discussion
1030 – 1100	Coffee / tea break
1100 – 1200	SESSION 6 : Regulation and "business models" to access broadband backbones (submarine cables) General discussion
1200 – 1400	LUNCH BREAK
1400 – 1500	SESSION 7: ITU African regional initiatives on broadband development and regional interconnectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situation and perspectives General discussion
1500 – 1530	Coffee / tea break
1530 – 1615	SESSION 8 : Empowering and protecting consumer , Quality of Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • development of broadband from the consumer perspective • Measuring broadband's Quality of Service General discussion
1615 – 1700	SESSION 9: Broadband national policies, strategies and plans General discussion
Day 3 – 5 September 2013	
0900 – 1000	SESSION 10 : Information on the PAN AFRICAN REGULATORS' NETWORK (PARENET) (closed session for regulators and regulators' associations)

	Presentation: Mr Lin Mombo, President of ARCEP, President of FTRA General discussion
1000 – 1030	Coffee / tea break
1030 – 1130	SESSION 11 Conclusions and ways forward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of forum recommendations • Proposal of themes for FTRA 2014 • Dates and venue for FTRA 2014 • Other business
1130 – 1200	CLOSING CEREMONY

Annex 2

	<p align="center">14th Forum on Telecommunication/ICT Regulation and Partnership in Africa (FTRA 2013)</p> <p align="center">Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 3 to 6 September 2013</p>	
<p align="center">REGISTRATION FORM</p>		
<p align="center">To be returned to ITU's Area Office for Southern Africa (Fax: +263 4 771257 or e-mail: ftra2013@itu.int <u>by 15 August 2013</u></p>		
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Ms</p> <hr/> <p align="center">Family name</p> <hr/> <p align="center">First name</p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Administration of ITU Member State</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ITU Sector Member</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ITU Associate</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Non-member</p>
<p>Name of administration or organization _____</p> <p>Full address _____ _____ _____</p> <p>Tel.: _____</p> <p>Fax: _____</p> <p>E-mail: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p>		

