

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



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Date: 12 July 2005 Time: Page 1/16 Ref: DM 286

To: **All Arab Region Telecommunications
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For your reply:

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Subject: **Regional Seminar on Fixed Mobile Convergence and New Network Architectures for the Arab Region, Tunis, Tunisia, 21-24 November 2005**

Dear Sir/Madam,

At the kind invitation of Tunisie Télécom, the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) is organizing a **Regional Seminar on Fixed Mobile Convergence and New Network Architectures for the Arab Region**, which will take place in the Hotel El Mouradi Africa, Tunis, Tunisia from 21 to 24 November 2005.

Today's technology savvy young person will soon be a key decision maker at home and at work. This "next generation user" is the target customer who will demand and expect multimedia services, security, personalization and mobility for enhanced productivity and user experience. Next Generation Networks (NGNs) must meet the demands of these next generation users.

There are now more mobile users than fixed users. This increasing "demographic" shift requires an essential re-examination of the relationship between fixed and mobile networks. It also makes it very clear that mobility must be a core capability of the NGN.

Different solutions/network architectures can be taken into account for a smooth transition from existing network infrastructures (PSTN/PLMN) towards New Generation Network (NGN) as a result of the convergence process leading to different applications/services sharing network infrastructures.

The key objectives of this seminar are to provide an overview of convergence in its widest sense (Telecom/IT/Broadcast), then to focus on near term convergence topics including fixed and mobile, Telecom + IT. The seminar will include identification of directions and work topics for proceeding forward on near term convergence. The aspects related to Network Planning for New Generation Networks are also part of the Seminar.

The Call for Presentations and the Draft Program of the seminar are attached herewith for your information and participation.

Any presentations and any contributions for the organization of the Seminar will be highly appreciated and should be notified electronically to the ITU, **no later than 30 September 2005**, to the attention of Mr. Riccardo Passerini, e-mail: riccardo.passerini@itu.int.

The Seminar will be conducted in English and French.

Your Administration/Company is invited to participate and to lecture in this event with one or more qualified experts.

In this respect, should your Administration require a full fellowship (**LDCs**), you are kindly requested to fill in the attached Fellowship Nomination Form and return it to the ITU Fellowships Service by fax (+41 22 730 57 78) **by 20 October 2005 at the latest**. Please note that the fellowship will be granted on a first come first served basis within the available budget.

For other countries beneficiaries of partial fellowships:

The ITU will offer partial fellowship limited to **one** participant per country covering the cost of accommodation and miscellaneous expenses (**the cost of travel should be covered by your Administration**). Please note that the fellowship will be granted on a first come first served basis within the available budget.

In this respect, should your Administration require a partial fellowship, you are kindly, requested to fill in the attached Fellowship Nomination Form and return it to the ITU Fellowships Service by fax (+41 22 730 57 78) **by 20 October 2005 at the latest**.

You are kindly requested to complete and fax to Mr. Arfa (Tunisie Télécom) and to the ITU Regional Office in Cairo, **by 1 November 2005 at the latest**, the attached Registration Form for all your representatives and the Hotel Reservation Form.

Those participants requiring entry visa to Tunisia are requested to contact their local Embassy/Consulate of Tunisia for information well in advance. Please see also the attached information note for further details on the matter.

All the related information on the seminar could be found on the following websites: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/imt-2000/BDTActivities.html> and <http://www.ituarabic.org/>.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Original letter signed by:

Hamadoun I. Touré
Director

Annexes: 7

Call for papers
Draft Program
Registration Form
Full Fellowship Request Form
Partial Fellowship Request Form
Information Note
Hotel Reservation Form