



**Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)**

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Geneva, 3 May 2018

National Regulatory Authorities of ITU  
Member States

Subject: **Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-18) Consultation**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to launch the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) 2018 Best Practice Guidelines consultation on new regulatory frontiers to achieve digital transformation. Contributions will be coordinated by Mr Sorin Grindeanu, President of the National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM), Romania and GSR-18 Chair. I wish to express my gratitude to Mr Grindeanu for agreeing to undertake this important task.

The theme for GSR-18 will be: "Regulatory Frontiers". Discussions will focus on the digital transformation that is sweeping across sectors extending regulatory frontiers beyond ICTs and impacting on all aspects of our daily lives as consumers, businesses and citizens. In this data-driven new ICT ecosystem, things, machines and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are increasingly becoming part of the equation, breaking the silos of sector specific regulation, extending to new areas and also calling for greater security and protection of consumers, across platforms and networks. Governments and regulators have a key role to play in extending regulatory frontiers to new horizons to create an enabling and trusted environment to achieve digital transformation.

You are therefore invited, as part of the GSR consultation process, to identify new and innovative policy, regulatory and business measures needed to respond to the changing landscape, protect consumers and things, and ensure trust to enable the digital transformation to achieve its full potential. The consultation will focus on the following areas:

- **Emerging technologies:** preparing for AI, IoT, 5G, M2M communications to improve secure and reliable ICT infrastructure and access to and delivery of digital services.
- **Economic and business approaches:** addressing market access across the value chain, fostering innovative and sustainable business and investment models across platforms, and identifying economic incentives to support digital transformation.
- **Regulatory frameworks for digital transformation:** identifying new and evolving collaborative approaches, developing cross-sectoral digital policies and strategies, and defining innovative regulatory tools and sandboxes.

As time will be limited for this very important discussion at GSR, I would request that National Regulatory Authorities begin the process of preparing and submitting contributions well in advance of the GSR.

In order to be able to coordinate submissions and make drafts of the consolidated collaborative measures and the best practice guidelines available on the events websites ([www.itu.int/gsr18](http://www.itu.int/gsr18)) in advance of the meetings, we would ask you to submit your contribution in electronic format to [gsr@itu.int](mailto:gsr@itu.int) (maximum two pages), no later than 25 May 2018.

Individual contributions will also be posted. The best practice regulatory guidelines are to be presented on the last day of GSR.

I look forward to receiving your comments and I take this opportunity to encourage you to register as participant. May I also remind you to make your hotel reservations and check the visa procedure in advance of GSR. Visa instructions, online registration and further information on accommodation are available on the GSR18 website at: [www.itu.int/gsr18](http://www.itu.int/gsr18).

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou  
Director