



**Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific**

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Bangkok, 30 May 2017

Administrations of ITU Member States,
Regulators, Sector Members,
Academia in the Pacific Region

Subject: ITU PITA Workshop on Enhancing access to submarine cables for Pacific Islands Countries

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), we would like to invite you to nominate participants for the **“ITU PITA Workshop on Enhancing access to submarine cables for Pacific Islands Countries”**. The workshop is organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA), and will be held from 15-18 August 2017 in Suva, Fiji. The workshop is supported by the Department of Communications, Government of Fiji and the Department of Communications and the Arts (DoCA), Government of Australia.

In line with the expected results of the WTDC-14 ITU Asia-Pacific Regional Initiatives and WCIT-12 Resolution “Special measures for landlocked developing countries and small island developing states for access to international optical fibre networks”, the workshop aims to

- a) conduct a stock take of the international fibre-optic access situation in the Pacific, the key challenges and requirements,
- b) build skills to enhance access to submarine cable for Pacific Islands Countries including the costing and pricing aspects, and
- c) enhance partnerships, and facilitate information exchange in the area of international fibre-optic connectivity in the Pacific.

The workshop will bring together stakeholders from government, industry, development organizations and other interested stakeholders to discuss ongoing initiatives, policy and regulatory frameworks, technologies and industry developments. Practical training model based costing exercises and sharing of industry practices will also be carried out to build specialized skills in submarine cable access pricing.

The provisional agenda of the workshop is attached will be updated regularly and will be available at <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/AsiaPacific/Pages/Events.aspx>

Details on accommodation and other useful information for participants will also be available at the same link. Interested participants are requested to register at the <http://www.pita.org.fj/>. Please register your interest as soon as possible but *not later than 15 July 2017*. The event will be conducted in English and will be paperless.

With support from the Government of Australia, ITU is pleased to inform you that one full fellowship will be offered to one participant from each ITU Member State of the Pacific region. The fellowship request form duly authorized by the respective ITU Administrations will be returned to fellowships@itu.int before **30 June 2017**. The Fellowship Application Form is attached (Annex 2).

Mr. Ashish Narayan of the ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (telephone +66 2 575 0055, email: ashish.narayan@itu.int) is at the disposal of participants who require assistance in participating in the workshop.

We look forward to your positive reply at your earliest convenience and to welcoming you and your colleagues, and are confident that your active participation will contribute to the success of the workshop.

Yours faithfully,



Ioane Koroivuki
Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific