

In partnership  
with



Republic of Rwanda  
Ministry of ICT  
and Innovation



AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION  
UNION AFRICAINE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS

6<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

➤ ATU Member States

Dear Sir/Madam,

**INVITATION TO THE GSMA AFRICA POLICY LEADERS FORUM SPECIAL SESSION ON UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUNDS FOR RURAL CONNECTIVITY IN AFRICA, AT MWC KIGALI - RWANDA**

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GSMA in collaboration with the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), is honoured to invite you to a session on: **Bridging the Digital Divide: Leveraging Universal Service Funds (USF) for Enhanced Rural Connectivity in Africa** taking place on **19 October 2023** as part of the Policy Leaders Forum at [MWC Kigali](#) which will be held from 17 to 19 October 2023, at the Kigali Convention Centre.

The [Africa Policy Leaders Forum](#) is an invitation-only event bringing together key stakeholders from ministries, regulatory bodies, and the broader mobile ecosystem. The Policy Leaders Forum offers insightful keynotes, stimulating panels and discussions with multiple opportunities for networking and meeting with the sector's key players from across the continent. During this session, the GSMA will be launching a report on USF, and we will have discussions on rural connectivity and the need to connect the unconnected in a sustainable manner.

Importantly also, prior to and as part of the preparation for this event, we shall on **31 August 2023** from 15:00 to 16:30 (EAT), host an online stakeholder validation workshop for the USF report where we will be presenting the preliminary findings of the report for your feedback and appreciation. An online meeting link with more information will follow shortly after this letter.

To accept this invitation, including the invitation for the online stakeholder validation workshop for the USF report, and to register for the event; please contact [governmentevents@gsma.com](mailto:governmentevents@gsma.com) and [sg@atuuat.africa](mailto:sg@atuuat.africa) with a copy to [a.koech@atuuat.africa](mailto:a.koech@atuuat.africa) **before 21 July 2023** for onward planning.

We look forward to welcoming you to Kigali.

Yours sincerely,

John OMO  
Secretary General, ATU

Angela Wamola  
Head of Sub-Saharan Africa, GSMA