<u>REGISTRATION FORM</u>

INTRA-REGIONAL WORKSHOP
ON
ICT and Community E-Centres Development
For Poverty Reduction and Business Services Promotion
Among the OIC countries and   IOR-ARC Region

Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran
20-22 December 2010

Please affix your
scanned photo
here.

(Please fill out completely)

SECTION - A:
(To be filled in by the nominee)

1-First Name (as in passport)
2- Family Name (as in passport)
3- Father' s Name
4- Date of Birth
5- Place of Birth
6- Present Nationality
7- Former Nationality
8- Occupation
9- Position
10- Name of the institution you work in
11- Permanent Address
12- Telephone Number
13- Fax Number
14- E-mail
15- Passport Number
16- Place of Issue
17- Date of Issue
18- Date of Expiration
19- Place of the nearest
Iranian representation Embassy/
Consulate
20- Please attach the copy of your
passport(for each applicant)

21- Educational Qualifications:
Highest Degree:
Field of Study:
Year of Award:
University :

22- Brief Bio data (To be attached on separate sheet)
23- What qualifies you for participation in this Workshop? (To be attached on separate sheet)
24- Please attach the abstract of your paper proposed to be presented in the workshop in separate sheet.

Date: **Signaturee:**

SECTION -B
ENDORSEMENT BY NOMINATING AUTHORITY

The Applicant in a member country of the IOR-ARC may get the following endorsement signed by the IOR-ARC RCSTT Focal Point in his/her country and in case no focal point has been already introduced in his/her country, any other relevant official employer institute/organization/university can sign the nominating letter, if he/she wishes to take advantages accrued to the official nominee of the country. (The list of IOR-ARC RCSTT focal points is attached hereto.)

Name:
Designation:
Date:
Signature and seal:

Caution: Handwritten forms are not absolutely acceptable; only MS Word files are taken into consideration!
Please e-mail this form not later than *December 1, 2010* to the following address:

IOR-ARC Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT)
Dr. M. Molanejad
Director of IOR-ARC RCSTT
 E-mail: info@ior-rcstt.org,
 mmolanezhad@yahoo.com
Address: No. 27, Sh. Mousavi St., Enghelab Ave., Tehran15819, Iran
Tel/Fax: + (98-21) 88 319798-9

 List of Focal Points

1- Oman

Dr. Salim bin Humoud Al Rawahy
Assistant Professor
Sultan Qaboos University
Sultanate of Oman
Email: shrawahy@squ.edu.om
Tel: 24141436/ 99717171

2-Bangladesh

Dr. Samina Ahmed
Scientific Officer
Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR)
Bangladesh
bcsir@yahoo.com
Tel: +880 1817 549 816

3- Yemen

Dr. Ahmed A. Bin-Mubarak
Director
Center of Business Administration for Graduate Studies, Sana'a University
Yemen
Tel: 009671-472601
Mobile: 0967-733870309
Fax: 00967-1472602
Email: Mubarak@msm.nl

4- Sri Lanka

Dr. Chamari Rodrigo
Director
Economic Affairs Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sri Lanka
Email: chamari.rodrigo@formin.gov.lk

5- Thailand

Dr. Pornsith Ribulnakarintr
First Secretary
Division of Economic Relations and Cooperation
Department of International Economic Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Thailand
Email: pornsith@mfa.go.th

6- Mauritius

Dr. P.A. Mohamudally
Ag. Deputy Director
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade
Republic of Mauritius
Email: pmohamudally@mail.gov.mu

7- **Singapore**

Dr. Daniel Wang Yanxiang
Country Officer
South Asia and Sub-Saharan
Africa Directorate
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Singapore

Email: daniel_wang@mfa.gov.sg

CC:

Dr. Pang Te Cheng
Deputy Director
South Asia and Sub-Saharan
Africa Directorate
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Singapore
Email: pang_te _cheng @mfa.gov.sg

8- Malaysia

Dr. Kaseh Hj. Abu Bakar
Deputy Director
Office of International Relations
University Kebangsaan Malaysia
43600UKMBangi, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia
Tel: + (603) – 8921 4187
Fax: + (603) – 8925 4890
Email: tpha@ukm.my

CC:
Dr. Shahril Effendi Abd. Ghany
Undersecretary Regional cooperation, Social and Cultural Division
Department of Multilateral Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Malaysia
Email: shahril@kin.gov.my

4. SPONSORING AND IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

- Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (IROST)
- Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
- IOR- ARC Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT)
- Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
- Telecommunication Company of Iran
- UN ESCAP Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division
- Information and Communication Technology Faculty

6. CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS:
30 November 2010

7. PROGRAMME DURATION & CLASS SCHEDULES:

The programme will be conducted from 20-22 December 2010, which includes three working days and two days field visit. The field visit will be organized by Isfahan ICT and Community e- centres after finishing the programme. However the participants should arrive on December 19, 2010 and depart on December 25, 2010.

8. VENUE:

Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (IROST)

9. VISA REQUIREMENTS:

Taking notice of their acceptance, participants should apply for a visa through the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in their respective countries. No participant should travel to the Islamic Republic of Iran without obtaining visa or written assurance of the programme sponsors that visa will be granted on arrival. The visa should be valid for the duration of the Training Workshop (one week).

10. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS

The completed nomination forms to be submitted not later than 30 November 2010.

The participants are required to present a country report/paper outlining their country experience about ICT and Community e-Centres opportunities and required cooperation. The presentation should be through power point and the participants should send the electronic version of their presentation via email one week before the training program. They should also bring their paper on a compact disc on MS Word for publication.

The participants are required to bear all expenses to be incurred in the home country relating to or connected with their participation at the training programme. They should get themselves insured in respect of accident/sickness (including hospitalization). The sponsors of the Training Workshop will not be responsible for any eventuality arising from accident or sickness.

11. THE APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO:

Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (IROST)
IOR- ARC Regional Centre for Science and Technology (RCSTT)
No 27, Sh. Mosavi St., Enghelab Ave. ,Tehran 15819, Iran

Contact Person:
Dr. M. Molanejad
Director, IOR- ARC Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT)
Tel/ Fax: (+98 21) 88 31097098- 9
E-mail: mmolanezhad@ior-rcstt.org
mmolanejad@yahoo.com

Intra-Regional Workshop
on

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SPONSORING & IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES:

 Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (IROST)

 Islamic Development Bank (IDB)

 IOR- ARC Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT)

 Ministry of Information and Communication Technology

 Telecommunication Company of Iran (TCI)

 UN ESCAP Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division

1. TITLE:

ICT and Community e-Centers Development For Poverty Reduction and Business Services Promotion Among the OIC countries and IOR-ARC Region

II. INTRODUCTION:

In spite of immense progress in expanding the reach of basic and new ICT services and applications in developing countries, the majority of the world's population, especially in Asia and Africa still does not have access to basic ICT, i.e., telephone service. Computers or the Internet, even broadcast signals are virtually unknown to millions of rural and poor people and the so-called "digital divide" has shifted perilously in recent years to the Developing Countries , with major missed opportunities for the achievement comparable with developed countries in Asia and Africa

ICT access points or telecentres or Community e-centres (CeCs) are public-access facilities providing electronic communication services, especially in marginalized or remote areas where ICTs are not prevalent. They serve as avenues for providing universal access communications and multimedia services to rural communities since they provide access to telephones, faxes, computers, the Internet, photocopiers and other equipment and services. They can have several functions including as an enabler to the communities to access new knowledge and information that can be incorporated into their local knowledge and context, such as, provisions of information on employment opportunities, educational resources, government services and technical information on agriculture for their daily lives, such as information on new varieties, planting techniques, and disease prevention; as a facility to allow entrepreneurs to plan and prepare their business arrangements and to communicate with partners and potential clients from a distance (e-commerce), telemedicine, etc. CeC serves as "virtual roads" or communication highways that can benefit the society.

OIC and IOR-ARC region members and others developing countries of Asia and the Pacific, and Africa have established some and planned to establish more CeCs in rural and remote areas to address the so called digital divide that are providing mostly the above-mentioned services. However, CeCs in many countries are facing the sustainability issues, challenges of coping with the new and emerging technologies (e.g., next generation wireless broadband technologies, WiMax) which are more efficient but somehow beyond the affordability and capacity of such centres), and emerging services. Exchange of information and knowledge, sharing of the knowledge and sound practices, transfer of technology, networking among the CeCs through building/enhancing inter-regional/intra-regional cooperation is considered as the important step to address the above issues, largely.

The current programme aims at reviewing such issues in above region, identify commonalities, share knowledge, and experience, sound practices and design a strategy for intra-regional cooperation and networking of the CeCs for future cooperation, among others.

Methodology

A three-day programme will be organized by IDB support and the UNESCAP and UNDP of Egypt would most likely provide some sort of support including resource persons. Supports from other international agencies will also be sought and/or they will be invited to participate in the meeting.

2. PROGRAMME FOCUS AND CONTENTS:

- ICTs application for national development and importance of CeCs
- Asian Prospective (by Expert)
- Community e-Centers (CeCs) Development
- Expert Community e-Centers development, their services and current status in Asia (by participants including Malaysia)

- Community e-Centers development, their services and current status in in Africa (by UNDP Official/Resource person and participants including Central Asia)
- Selected Case studies on CeCs Sound Practices from countries participants
- Presenting a model for regional networking among the OIC countries and IOR-ARC and UN-ESCAP Region
- Groups Discussion for identifying best practices
- Conclusion and recommendations
- Field visits

3. NOMINATION AND SELECTION:

Nominations should be submitted on the application form annexed. Nominating authority is requested to nominate candidates preferably from among the senior policy makers, specialists, researchers and technical staff involved in global changes issues. Moreover, the nominees should have sufficient knowledge of English Language. Selection of candidates would be at the discretion of the Selection Committee; a basic criterion for selection would be the level and work experience of candidates in order that a cohesive and homogeneous group could be gathered for the programme.

The participants would be provided an economy class return air ticket, lodging and boarding during 19-25 December 2010.

Selected candidates would be informed of their acceptance and travel arrangements at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the programme.