



*News Release*

## **TRA Continues to Monitor Mobile Operators Compliance with Safety Standards**

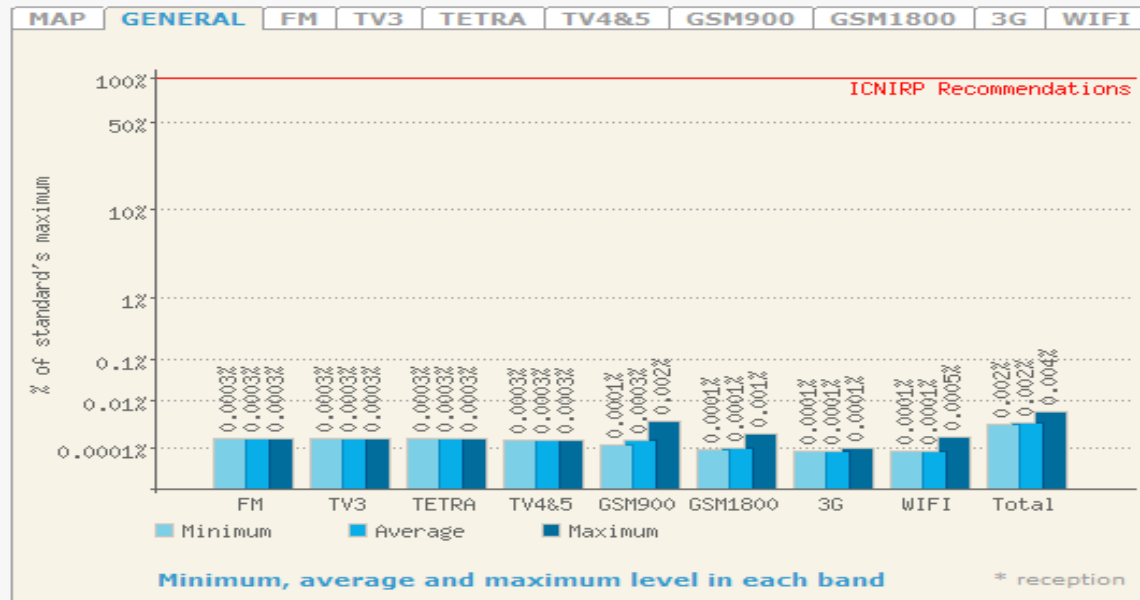
### **TRA's Latest Report Confirms that Telecom Radio Signals are within the Limit and the Industry New Guidelines for Mast Deployment is Submitted to the Minister for Municipalities**

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain - Monday 2 November 2009

Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) today issued its third quarter report on the measurement of signal level transmitted from telecommunications antennas. The report indicated that telecoms signals are well within the level permitted by Ministerial order 4 of 2009 which is based on the international best practices set by the International Commission for non ionisation of radio protection (ICNERP)

The results of the measurements are consistent with other measurements made by TRA which now cover 39 locations in Bahrain. The highest signal level measured during the 3rd quarter was recorded at 0.18% of the international agreed level (more than 500 times below the permitted level). This was measured on a roof top on which a telecoms mast had been installed and thus is higher than average signal levels measured by TRA. Typical measurements in public places show that signal levels are about 0.01% of the permitted level (this is 10,000 times below the permitted level). An example of measurements taken at a typical public location is shown in the figure below.

TRA reassured the public that it would continue its measurement campaign to ensure that telecommunications signals remained within the permitted limits and that the licensed operators continue to comply with rules and regulations relating to the level of radio signals.



On a related matter, the industry is currently working on finalising a new set of guidelines for the deployment of new wireless telecommunication networks. The new guidelines will be presented to the municipalities and other concerned planning authorities next week for their review and comments.

The new guidelines will set out the engineering principles and consent requirements for the deployment of wireless telecommunications networks, and will include the time frame in which each party should respond so that operators are able to meet their commitments to provide telecommunications services to the general public and businesses in timely manner.

TRA General Director Mr. Alan Horne said "TRA will continue its measurement campaign to cover all Bahrain and to ensure operators compliance with Order No.4 and we welcome enquires from the public to carry out measurements at their homes or premises to relive any concerns that they may have regarding radio signal levels."

Mr. Horne went on to say "Licensed operators are taking the issue seriously and are working closely with TRA in the preparation of the new guidelines. Theses guidelines will be shared with the municipalities and other stakeholders for their comments before finalisation. We are looking forward to working with the municipalities to have in place strong guidelines for the deployment of new masts for the benefit of consumers and the wider economy."

### **About TRA**

Since its establishment in 2002 the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of the Kingdom of Bahrain (TRA) has been working with government, consumers, operators and investors to develop the Kingdom of Bahrain into the region's most modern communications hub and to facilitate the growth of the market. As an exemplary Regulator for the region, TRA

independently carries out its duties in a transparent and non-discriminatory manner. More information about TRA can be viewed at [www.tra.org.bh](http://www.tra.org.bh)

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