



## **Four Companies Registered for the Third Mobile Licence Auction in Bahrain**

Manama – Kingdom of Bahrain, Tuesday 14 October 2008

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) has today announced that following the closure of Bidder Registration yesterday at 3pm, four companies have registered for the third mobile Licence auction in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Commenting on this announcement TRA's General Director Mr. Alan Horne said: "Given the economic climate we are pleased at the level of interest in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mobile Licence. Indications are that registered bidders will bring a combination of international and local expertise."

Mr. Rob Middlehurst, TRA's Director of Market and Competition and the leader of the Auction process said "In the interest of transparency and in line with the international best practice for a competitive auction process TRA has put in place auction rules designed to protect the confidential information of the bidders and to avoid unfair practices. Accordingly we are today announcing the number of the registered companies for the 3<sup>rd</sup> mobile Licence auction. In accordance with the ITT it is only the register companies who will be able to submit bids on 13 November 2008 where the number of bids received will be announced and the names of qualified bidders on 18 November 2008."

Registered prospective bidders can submit questions on the Invitation to Tender document seeking clarification on the information provided by 3:00 pm on 16 October 2008. Responses to the questions received will be published on TRA's website on 23 October 2008. TRA aims to open the financial bids of the qualified bidders and announce the winner in early December in a public meeting. The date and time of opening the financial bids will be announce in a due course.

### **About TRA**

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) was established by Legislative Decree No. 48 of 2002 promulgating the Telecommunications Law. TRA is an independent body and its duties and powers include, among other things, protecting the interests of subscribers and users and promoting effective and fair competition among existing and new licensed operators. More information regarding TRA can be viewed at [www.tra.org.bh](http://www.tra.org.bh)

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