



*News Release*

## **TRA Participates at the Arab Regulators' Network 7<sup>th</sup> General Annual Meeting**

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain - Saturday 3 July 2010

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) has participated at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Arab Regulators' network held under the presidency of the Sudani regulator on 23 June 2010. Bahrain delegation was represented by Mr. Basil Al Arrayed TRA's Director of Communications and Consumer Affairs and Mr. Adel Darwish TRA's Manager of Market Competition.

Commenting on the meeting Mr. Al Arrayed said "We are pleased to be part of the Arab Regulator meeting under the presidency of Sudan. We are aiming to benefit from others' experience and enable others to benefit from our own experience in Bahrain. The annual meeting of the Arab Regulators' Network is a valuable opportunity to discuss the creation of further innovative options and solutions in the ICT for the benefit of consumers, operators and the economies of the Arab countries."

TRA's delegation updated and presented to the Arab regulators the recently approved international roaming recommendation for the GCC countries and discussed with the benefit of agreeing on a similar recommendation for the Arab region. The outcome of "Achieving Ubiquitous Broadband Networks" Conference hosted by TRA last February was discussed during the General Meeting. TRA team also updated the meeting on telecommunications services prices benchmarking studies led by TRA.

During the meeting the Arab regulators agreed on a number of projects and tasks for the coming year which included; the Arabic content over the internet, consumer protection, preparations for the upcoming international conference for regulators in November in Senegal, studying the utilization of the 700 MHz band following the transformation to the digital broadcasting, competition in the telecommunications sector, exchange of experiences on quality of service of the telecommunications services.

Among the main objectives of the Arab Regulators Network are the exchange of experiences, the coordination in view of accomplishing the homogeneity of the practices of regulation in the Arab countries and working out policies and models of regulations, equitable and transparent procedures so as to encourage development and modernization of ICT networks and services, in the Arab world.

**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)

### **About ARNET**

The Arab Regulators' Network was established in April 2003 and comprises Regulators from 22 Arab countries. The presidency of the ARNET is yearly and rotates alphabetically among the member countries. Each presidency spans the period from one annual ordinary meeting to the next. The Arab Regulators' Network has chosen the Algerian Authority for Post and Transportation to be the permanent secretary. More information regarding the Arab Regulators' Network can be viewed at [www.aregnet.net](http://www.aregnet.net).

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