



## **TRA Shares its Experience at the Broadband Global Summit**

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain – Tuesday 18 May 2010

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority recently participated in the Broadband Global Summit held in Dubai and attended by TRA's Technical and Operations Director Mr. Mohammed Mahmood.

Mr. Mahmood spoke at the conference about the success of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the provision of WiMAX services through the allocation of the necessary spectrum identified in the National Frequency Plan, by means of a transparent, competitive and technology neutral licensing regime.

Mr. Mahmood said: "The participants at the conference praised the strategy adopted by the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of the Kingdom of Bahrain to provide high speed broadband services and the transparency policy adopted by TRA that provides clear direction to operators and investors about the telecommunications market in Bahrain".

It should be noted that TRA launched a public consultation in the December 2009 to February 2010 time period, to ascertain potential future demand for radio spectrum frequencies in the Kingdom of Bahrain. TRA received around 13 responses to the consultation.

Currently TRA is in the process of evaluating the responses with a view to publishing a report on the consultation in a timely manner. Once the responses have been evaluated and the report prepared, it will go before the newly-created Spectrum Strategy and Coordination Committee (SSCC), which brings together all of the country's spectrum stakeholders.

Part of the consultation deals with frequency bands that are currently utilised by the governmental sector, which may need to be freed up for private-sector use. Several frequency bands addressed in the consultation already have Incumbent users, which may have to be accommodated elsewhere.

The consultation documentation envisaged a Spectrum Release Plan which, if progressed and subject to the approval of the SSCC, will detail spectrum which in future will likely be released for telecommunications in Bahrain. The Spectrum Release Plan could also address the mechanisms which will be employed to review and modify the plans as well as a proposed timetable for release of spectrum and the arrangements for the award of licences.

## **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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