



Press Statement

TRA Invites Expression of Interest in 1800 MHz Spectrum

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain - Monday 28 March 2011

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) has published recently an Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI) in the licensing on a temporary basis of an additional 30 MHz of spectrum to the three existing operators utilising the frequency range 1710 – 1880 MHz. The spectrum on offer has been packaged into three, Sub-Band lots, each comprising two 5 MHz segments separated by 95 MHz. TRA will use responses to this EOI to analyse market demands for a release of additional spectrum.

Although the spectrum on offer will be included in a future tender for next generation, state-of-the-art public mobile system licences, the Authority is aware that from time to time significant congestion occurs within currently deployed mobile networks. Therefore any temporary release of 1800 MHz spectrum will be conditional on licensees relinquishing their temporary usage once the future tender and licensing process commences.

TRA therefore has invited the three operators licensed to provide mobile services in the range 1710 – 1880 MHz to express their comments and interest in the temporary assignment of the additional spectrum on offer. The EOI can be accessed via TRA website at www.tra.org.bh and responses are required to be lodged with TRA not later than 4.00 p.m. on 21 April 2011.

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