



هيئة تنظيم الاتصالات
Telecommunications Regulatory Authority

TRA Presents the Price Benchmarking Study at the Arab Regulators' Network 8th Annual General Meeting

News Release

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The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) represented by Mr. Basil Al Arrayed, Director of Communications and Consumer Affairs has participated at the 8th annual meeting of the Arab Regulators' network for Telecommunications held under the presidency of the Lebanese regulator earlier this month. Mr. Al Arrayed presented the 4th price benchmark study for telecommunications services in the Arab Region.

The benchmarking study is done by comparing the Arab Region with the OECD countries. The study was concluded on the fact that although prices have dropped in the Arab countries last year, there is still room for more improvements to close the price gap in comparison with those of the OECD countries.

Commenting on the meeting Mr. Al Arrayed said "We are pleased to be part of the Arab Regulator meeting under the presidency of Lebanon. Our aims are mutual so to say that each country benefits from the experience of the other. This meeting of the Arab Regulators' Network is a valuable opportunity which enable entities to discuss the creation of further innovative options and solutions in the telecommunications sector for the benefit of consumers, operators and the socio-economic of the Arab countries."

Other important subjects discussed during the meeting that include the impact of converging technology and broadband services on Universal Access Services and the management of the Universal Service Fund to ensure that all consumers in the Arab region have access to telecommunications services, the regulatory obligations on areas coverage and quality of service for broadband services and the role of the regulators in the development, utilization and promotion of a national ICT services.

Among the main objectives of TRA and the Arab Regulators Network are the exchange of experiences, 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 a communications environment that enriches the social and commercial fabric of the Kingdom of Bahrain. 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