



RADIATION FROM MOBILE ANTENNAS IN BAHRAIN IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

MANAMA – 21 December 2005- The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) announced today that the radiation from antennas used by telecommunications companies for mobile telephony in the Kingdom of Bahrain is in compliance with internationally accepted standards for electromagnetic fields.

This announcement comes after a team from an expert German firm (Rohde & Schwarz) measured the radiation from mobile antenna sites in the Kingdom. The measurements took place during the past two weeks and covered antennas used by the two mobile operators in Bahrain. The study and the measurements were taken without any notice to the mobile operators. This was done to ensure that the radiation measured reflected the normal level and was not changed before the measurements could be made.

The TRA is aware that the public has concerns about radiation emitted from mobile antennas and its possible effects on health, and therefore commissioned the specialised firm to come to Bahrain and measure the radiation on location.

The TRA has received a full report on the measurements taken for the sites across Bahrain. The report concludes that the level of radiation from the mobile antennas in Bahrain did not exceed the permissible limits set by the International Radiation Protection Association and the International Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation Protection.

Commenting on the results, the General Director of the TRA, Mr. A. Andreas Avgousti, said: “The TRA decided to commission independent experts to carry out radiation measurements on mobile antenna sites, after it came to our attention that there were concerns from the public on this issue. In our capacity as the regulator, we wanted to ensure that mobile operators are complying with their license conditions regards this issue. In addition, we wanted to ensure that the tests were conducted in an independent and professional manner so as to reflect the actual radiation emitted from these sites. After two weeks of visits to the sites across Bahrain, the experts concluded that all the levels of radiation found in Bahrain were in compliance with the internationally accepted standards.”

About the TRA

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

Notes to Editors:

The International Radiation Protection Association is an association of national and regional radiation protection companies. It was founded in 1966 to promote international contacts, co-operation and discussion of scientific and practical aspects in the fields of protection of people and the environment against ionizing radiation. The IRPA has more than 16,000 members in 42 countries.

The International Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation Protection is a body of independent scientific experts consisting of a main Commission of 14 members, 4 Scientific Standing Committees covering Epidemiology, Biology, Dosimetry and Optical Radiation, and a number of consulting experts. Their expertise is brought to bear on the important issue of possible adverse effects on human health from exposure to non-ionising radiation.

Rohde & Schwarz is a German based company with an international presence in the fields of test and measurement, information technology and communications.