



**Invitation to Participate in a
Working Group for Number Portability
7th August 2007**

Al Murjan Room, Gulf Hotel Conference Centre

In order to enhance the path of development of the telecommunications industry in the Kingdom of Bahrain, the TRA wishes to implement working groups as a discussion forum for certain subjects related to the industry. The purpose of these working groups will be to meet and examine any issues related to the specific subject, and recommend actions to be taken.

TRA will introduce this system of open interaction between operators, consumers, the TRA and other interested parties, with issues related to Number Porting as the initial phase in a consultation process.

The facility for implementing number porting is established in Section 40 of the Telecommunications Law for both fixed number porting, "when the Authority determines that sufficient demand exists for such a service" and mobile number porting "when the Authority is satisfied that sufficient demand exists for such a service". Note the slight difference in the wording.

TRA will formally consult on the issue, however it is suggested that an introduction of the issues at stake may best be explored first by way of the working group, followed by the formal consultation process. In this way, the TRA hopes that interested parties and the communications industry in Bahrain may explore as many of the issues as possible that may affect the future of the development of networks and services in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Invitations are offered for interested parties to attend the first meeting scheduled for 09:00 hours on Tuesday 7th August at the Al Murjan Room in the Gulf Hotel Conference Centre. We have seating for 30 persons and would suggest a maximum of two persons from any interested organisation.

Colin Bingham
Technical and Operations Director