

Telecommunications Regulatory
Authority
PO Box 10353
Manama
Kingdom of Bahrain

Web Site: www.tra.org.bh

7th September 2003

Formal Comment Period Notice

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) was established by Legislative Decree No. 48 promulgating the Telecommunications Law (the "Law"). The TRA is an independent body and its duties and powers include, among other things, protecting the interests of subscribers and users and promoting effective and fair competition among existing and new licensed operators.

In accordance with section 3(f) of the Law, the TRA shall, when determining to take measures that will have a material effect on a particular telecommunications market, give interested parties the opportunity to give their opinions as to such measures with a reasonable period of time. Accordingly, the TRA hereby gives notice that it has initiated a formal comment period in relation to the following matter.

Mobile Number Portability, MOU/DC/077

The TRA has received a request from MTC-Vodafone, one of the two licensed mobile operators, stating its belief that demand does exist within the market place for Mobile Number Portability (MNP) in line with section (40) 3 of the Law.

Accordingly, TRA has considered the material supplied by MTC Vodafone and also considered relevant international precedent with regard to MNP. The TRA has developed its own position on the issue and now hereby instigates a formal comment period under the above authority starting 7th September 2003, for a period of 30 days, to allow other interested parties to submit their views prior to making a determination.

Copies of the position paper prepared by the TRA may be obtained from the TRA web site (www.tra.org.bh). Comments may be submitted by email or post, provided that such comments are received by the TRA no later than 5:00 P.M., local time, on Monday 6th October 2003.