

PUBLIC NOTICE No. 4

concerning

**Award of Individual Mobile Telecommunications Licences and associated
Frequency Licences for the delivery of mobile telecommunications services in
the 900, 1800, 2100 and 2600 MHz bands in the Kingdom of Bahrain –
Invitation to Tender**

The Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") hereby provides notice to members of the public, including those interested in participating in the referenced tender process, of a change in the pre-qualification criteria set forth in the Invitation to Tender ("ITT") that was issued by the Authority on 28 January 2013.

This change comports with the decision of the Council of Ministers of the Kingdom of Bahrain promulgated on 24 February 2013 (the "Decision"). The Decision clarifies the position of the Government on the licensing of additional entrants in the telecommunications sector within the framework of the Third National Telecommunications Plan of the Kingdom, which was published on 3 July 2012 and promulgated as Resolution 39 of 2012 of the Council of Ministers.

In acknowledgment of the need to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Third National Telecommunications Plan, the Decision clarifies that participation in the referenced tender process should be limited to the Incumbent Mobile Operators as defined by the ITT.

As a result of this clarification, the Authority will limit eligibility for assignment of the frequencies being released in the referenced tender to the three existing holders of individual licences for the provision of mobile telecommunications services.

Therefore, in accordance with Article 3(e) of the Telecommunications Law of the Kingdom of Bahrain, promulgated as Legislative Decree No. 48 in October 2002, the Authority hereby modifies the ITT as follows:

- 1) Section 1.4, first sentence shall be replaced by the following sentence:
Any Incumbent Mobile Operator that wishes to obtain the right to use any of the frequencies specified in Section 3.1 below, is invited to participate in the Auction in accordance with the provisions of this ITT.
- 2) Annex 2.2, paragraph 1.1: A new subsection (g) shall be inserted as follows: *copy of the most recent version of the individual mobile telecommunications licence held by the Registrant (including any modifications approved by the Authority).*
- 3) For the avoidance of doubt, all references in the ITT to the participation of Non-Incumbent Operators in this tender shall be disregarded for purposes of interpreting the ITT, and any rights pertaining thereto shall be deemed null and void with immediate effect.

In light of this change in the ITT, the Authority will return all registration materials submitted by any participant that does not meet the modified criteria for participation in the ITT and the registration fee paid by any such participant.