

Vol: 01  
Issue: 01  
June 01-15, 2009  
Issue Date: June 25, 2009



**REGIONAL ISSUES**

## SAMENA COUNTRIES

**Afghanistan** **Chairman: Mr. Zakria Hassan** info@atra.gov.af  
www.atra.gov.af  
[Afghanistan Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (ATRA)]

- ♦ Afghanistan mobile network, Roshan has expanded its Telemedicine solution beyond Kabul to include provincial hospitals.

**Algeria** **Chairperson: Ms. Zohra Derdouri** info@arpt.dz  
www.arpt.dz  
[Regulatory Authority for Post & Telecommunication (RAPT)]

- ♦ Nortel Networks has been selected to deploy a GSM-R wireless communications system for a new railway line in Algeria.

**Bahrain** **General Director: Mr. Alan Horne** ahorne@tra.org.bh  
www.tra.org.bh  
[Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (TRA)]

- ♦ TRA issued 2009 Price Benchmarking study of Telecommunications Services in Arab Countries.
- ♦ For SMP Operators TRA is process of proposing a new framework regarding tariff.
- ♦ 2008 Telecom Market indicators Report issued.
- ♦ Addresses the overly high tariffs for Mobile Roaming within the Arab countries.

**Bangladesh** **Chairman: Brig Gen Zia Ahmed** btrc@btrc.gov.bd  
www.btrc.gov.bd  
[Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC)]

- ♦ Consultation on Regulatory and Licensing Guidelines for Internet Protocol Telephony Services Provider (IPTSP) in progress. Second draft published.
- ♦ Ericsson has urged the Regulator to speed up the 3G license offer, so that it can tap the existing 3G market in the country.

**Bangladesh** **Chairman: Brig Gen Zia Ahmed** btrc@btrc.gov.bd  
www.btrc.gov.bd  
[Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC)]

- ♦ A guideline regarding use of Global Positioning System (GPS) devices issued.

**Egypt** **Executive President: Dr. Amr Badawi** info@ntra.gov.eg  
www.ntra.gov.eg  
[National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (NTRA)]

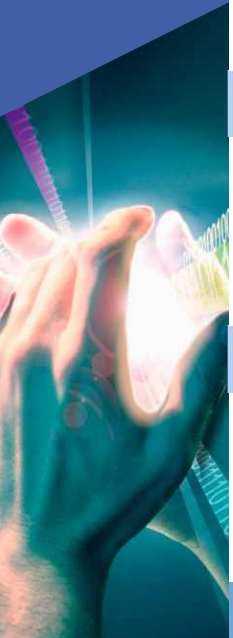
- ♦ A guideline regarding use of Global Positioning System (GPS) devices issued.

**Iran** **President & Deputy Minister: H. E. Khusravi Mahmoud** info@cra.ir  
www.cra.ir  
[Communication Regulatory Authority (CRA)]

- ♦ The Iranian Regulator cancelled the award of the country's 3rd mobile phone license to an Etisalat lead consortium, saying the company had failed "to give necessary guarantees and license fees on time.
- ♦ The slightly confused situation over Iran's third mobile phone license was further complicated over the weekend when Etisalat said that it is still in talks with the Iranian regulator to get the license back.

**Iraq** **CEO: Dr. Siyamend Zeid Othman** enquiries@cmc.iq  
www.cmc.iq  
[Communication & Media Commission (CMC)]

- ♦ No significant Regulatory activity reported.



**Jordan** **Chairman & CEO: Dr. Ahmad Hiasat** trc@trc.gov.jo  
www.trc.gov.jo  
[Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (TRC)]

- ◆ Regulator rejected the application of Orange, the sole bidder for 3G license auction due to failure to comply the tender rules.

**Kuwait** **Director of International Relations & Information: Mr. Walid Hamad El Giran** www.moc.kw  
[Ministry of Communication(MOC)]

- ◆ New National Numbering Plan implemented.

**Lebanon** **Chairman & CEO: Dr. Kamal S. Shehadi** info@tra.gov.lb  
www.tra.gov.lb  
[Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (TRA)]

- TRA approved Draft Regulations on:
- ◆ Service Provider Licensing Regulations
  - ◆ Class and Frequency Licensing Regulations
  - ◆ Spectrum Management and Licensing Regulation
  - ◆ Public Consultation on Broad Band Licensing Plan and the Broad- Band Technical Requirement in process.
  - ◆ QoS Regulations under process.

**Libya** www.gcd.ly  
[General Department of Communication (GCD)]

- ◆ Libya has launched a mobile WiMAX network - covering some 300,000 potential subscribers in eighteen cities.

**Nepal** **Chairman: Mr. Bhesh Raj Kanel** info@nta.gov.np  
www.nta.gov.np  
[Nepal Telecommunication Authority (NTR)]

- ◆ Work on formulation of a new Broad Band Policy in progress.

**Oman** **Chairman: Mr. Mohammad Al Khasibi** traoman@tra.gov.om  
www.tra.gov.om  
[Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (TRA)]

- ◆ TRA issued new fixed line license to Nawras.
- ◆ Public Consultation on Re-Planning of Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) in progress.
- ◆ Public Consultation on SIM Blocking in progress.

**Pakistan** **Chairman: Dr. Muhammad Yaseen** chairman@pta.gov.pk  
www.pta.gov.pk  
[Pakistan Telecommunications Authority (PTA)]

- ◆ Consultation to develop Mobile Subscriber's SIM Information System in process.
- ◆ Wireless Local Loop (WLL) Licenses issued for Azad Jammu and Kashmir & Northern Areas.
- ◆ Work on Infrastructure sharing in process

**Palestine** **Minister: Dr. Youssef Mahmoud Hamid** www.mtit.gov.ps  
[Ministry of Telecom & Information Technology (MTIT)]

- ◆ Palestinian West Bank and Gaza GSM/3G License holder Wataniya has demanded its license fee to be refunded due to delay from the Israel Government in releasing the Radio Spectrum

**Qatar** **Executive Director: Mr. William Fagan** info@ict.gov.qt  
www.ict.gov.qt  
[ICT Qatar]

- ◆ Consultation on Telecommunications Licensing in progress.

**Saudi Arabia** **Governor: H.E. Dr. Mohammed Al-Suwaiyel** Info@citc.gov.sa  
www.citc.gov.sa  
[Communication & Information Technology Commission (CITC)]

- ◆ Public Consultation on the Reference Interconnection Offer (RIO) in process.
- ◆ Public Consultation on proposed Enhancement to Domain Name Registration in process.

**Sri Lanka** **Director General: Mr. Priyantha Kariyapperuma**  
[Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (TRC)]

priyanthak@trc.gov.lk  
www.trc.gov.lk

- ♦ Regulator working on National Backbone License and Service regarding Build and Operate a National Backbone Network in Sri Lanka.

**Sudan** **Director General: Abbas Arabi Abdalla**  
[National Telecommunication Commission (NTC)]

info@ntc.org.sd  
www.ntc.org.sd

- ♦ New GSM network installed in Southern Sudan getting popularity.

**Syria** **Minister: H. E. Dr. Imad Sabouni**  
[Ministry of Communication & Technology (MoCT)]

www.moct.gov.sy

- ♦ No significant Regulatory activity reported.

**Tunisia** [National Telecommunication Commission (INTT)]

dir.coop@intt.tn  
www.intt.tn

- ♦ Regulator to offer third mobile phone license and another landline license by this year.

**Turkey** **Chairman & CEO: Dr. Tayfun Acarer**  
[Information & Communication Technologies Authority]

tacarar@btk.gov.tr  
www.tk.gov.tr

- ♦ Ericsson awarded a 4-year 3G up gradation contract will integrate and deploy WCDMA/HSPA radio access and packet core networks, as well as mobile back-haul solution.

**Turkey** **Chairman & CEO: Dr. Tayfun Acarer**  
[Information & Communication Technologies Authority]

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www.tk.gov.tr

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**UAE** **Director General: Mr. Mohamed Al Ghanim**  
[Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (TRA)]

info@tra.ae  
www.tra.gov.ae

- ♦ Yemen to pass 10 million mobile phone users by 2010.

**Yemen** **Minister: H. E. Eng. Kamal Hussain Al-Jabry**  
[Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology (MOT&IT)]

ptc@mtit.gov.ye  
www.mtit.gov.ye

- ♦ Yemen to pass 10 million mobile phone users by 2010.

Sources: MOJ News Agency, Dow Jones News, Arabianbusiness News, Zawya.com, Emirates News Agency, Reuters UK, Reuters.com, Telegeography.com, SAMENA's news archives, Industry News and Newsletters, Regulatory Bodies' websites and Press Releases.



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