



The 9th Arab Telecom & Internet Forum الملتقى العربي التاسع للاتصالات والانترنت

15 - 16 APRIL, 2009 / BEIRUT - LEBANON

**Under the Patronage of H.E. Eng. Gebran Bassil,
Minister of Telecommunications in Lebanon**

**The 9th Arab Telecom and Internet Forum
Habtoor Grand Hotel
15-16 April 2009
Forum Agenda**

Wednesday 15 April 2009

13:00-15:00 Registration at Habtoor Grand Hotel, Emirates Hall

15:00-15:45 Opening Ceremony:

- **Mr. Faysal Abou Zaki**, Deputy General Manager, Al-Iktissad Wal-Aamal Group
- **Mr. Khalid Balkheyour**, President and CEO, Arabsat, Saudi Arabia
- **Mr. Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid**, Director ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau, International Telecommunications Union, Switzerland
- **HE. Eng. Gebran Bassil**, Minister of Telecommunications, Lebanon

15:45-16:00 Ceremony to Honor the Life Time Achievement in Telecom:

- **Mr. Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid**, Director ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau, International Telecommunications Union, Switzerland
- **Mr. Khalid Balkheyour**, President and CEO, Arabsat, Saudi Arabia
- **International Turnkey Systems Group (ITS)**, received by its General Manager, Mr. Khaled Faraj Al Saeid.

16:00-16:30 Inauguration of the Forum Exhibition and Coffee Break

16:30-16:45 Keynote speech: HE. Mr. Mohammad Omran, Chairman of ETISALAT, UAE

16:45-18:00 Panel I: Plenary Ministers' Discussion

Open discussion with the Arab Telecom ministers

Moderator: Mr. Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid, Director ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau, International Telecommunications Union, Switzerland

Panelists:

- **HE. Eng. Gebran Bassil**, Minister of Telecommunications, Lebanon
- **HE. Dr. Imad Saboni**, Minister of Communication & Technology, Syria
- **HE. Eng. Basem Rousan**, Minister of Information & Communication Technology, Jordan
- **HE. Eng. Nabeel Bin Salamah**, Minister of Electricity & Water and Minister of Communications, Kuwait
- **HE. Mr. Mohammad Omran**, Chairman of ETISALAT, UAE



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9:30-10:30 Panel II: Challenges Facing the Telecom Industry

Is it now the time to accelerate investment in infrastructure? Has the telecom industry been innovative enough in new services and pricing? Will competition accelerate the consolidation of regional telecom operators? Will such consolidations be through acquisitions, joint ventures or loose alliances? How the industry is facing the repercussions of the global economic crisis? What role can ITU play in such situation?

Moderator: Dr. Riad Bahsoun, Vice Chairman of the Board, SAMENA, UAE

Panelists:

- **Mr. Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid**, Director ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau, International Telecommunications Union, Switzerland
- **Mr. Ghassan Hasbani**, Partner & Vice President, Booz & Company, Lebanon
- **Eng. Afram Jamil**, Senior Advisor to the Minister in Policy & Strategy of ICT, Jordan
- **Dr. Walid Moneimne**, CEO, NURATEL, UAE

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 Session III: New Technologies, Broadband and Innovations

Has broadband reached the mass market level in the region? What are the wireless and wire line technologies that succeeded and what is the future of their deployment in the region? What role will satellite play in the next generation infrastructure?

Moderator: Mr. Mohamed Basafi, Chief Technical Officer, Mobily, Saudi Arabia

Panelists:

- **Eng. Mohamed Youssif**, VP & Chief Commercial Officer, Arabsat, Saudi Arabia
- **Mr. Georges Dabaghi**, Regional Sales Manager for Motorola Home & Networks Mobility, Middle East and Africa (MEA), Motorola, UAE
- **Mr. Ghazi Atallah**, Managing Director, neXgen Advisory Group, UAE
- **Mr. Samer Halawi**, Vice President for Corporate Strategic Development, Inmarsat, UAE
- **Mr. Ibrahim Moussa**, Manager Telecom BSD, International Turnkey Systems Group (ITS), Kuwait.

12:30-12:45 Coffee Break



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12:45-15:00 Panel IV: Challenges and Opportunities for Telco Operators & ISPs and the New Face in Terms of Regulation and Competition

What opportunities and challenges are facing the public and private Telco Operators? What regulatory measures can be taken to protect investments and consumers? What are the latest developments in the Lebanese GSM sector and in Broadband Regulation in the region? How the regulatory environment is likely to change in response to the global economic crisis?

Moderator: Mr. Ghassan Hasbani, Partner & Vice President, Booz & Company, Lebanon

Panelists:

- **Dr. Kamal Shehadi**, Chairman & CEO, Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (TRA), Lebanon
- **Dr. Amer Al-Rawas**, CEO, Omantel
- **Mr. Samer Salameh**, Chief Executive Officer, alfa, Lebanon
- **Dr. Khaldoun Farhat**, General Manager, Terranet, Lebanon
- **Mr. Gabriel Deek**, President, Professional Computer Association-PCA, Lebanon
- **Dr. Miloud Ameziane**, Head of Arab Regional Office, International Telecommunications Union, Egypt

15:00 **Lunch**