The 9th Arab Telecom & Internet Forum
الملتقى العربي التاسع للاتصالات والانترنت
15 - 16 APRIL, 2009 / BEIRUT - LEBANON

الاقتصاد والاعمال
Al-Iktissad Wal-Aamal
Conferences

Under the Patronage of HE. 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. Raouf Abou Zaki,** General Manager, Al-Iktissad Wal-Aamal Group
- **Mr. Khalid Balkheyour,** President & 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**

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

- **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

Thursday 16 April 2009

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?

Panelists:
- **Mr. Sami Albasheer Al Morshid**, Director 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, Nurtel, 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 wireline technologies that succeeded and what is the future of their deployment in the region? What role will satellite play in the next generation infrastructure?

Speakers:
- **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. Adli Dehelia,** Senior Director of Telecom Business Solution, International Turnkey Systems Group (ITS), Kuwait.

12:30-13:30 Panel IV: Challenges and Opportunities for Telco Operators 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?

Panelists:
- **Dr. Kamal Shehadi**, Chairman & CEO, Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (TRA), Lebanon
- **Eng. Nazem Bahssas Bin Yousef,** General Director, Syrian Telecom Establishment, Syria
- **Mr. Gilbert Najjar,** Head of GSM Owner Supervisory Board, Ministry of Telecommunications, Lebanon
- **Mr. Samer Salameh,** Chief Executive Officer, alfa, Lebanon
- **Dr. Khaldoun Farhat,** General Manager, Terranet, Lebanon

13:30-14:00 Coffee Break

14:00-15:00 Panel VI: ICT Development

Will ICT innovation be back on the agenda in light of the global economic downturn? Has the region evolved towards ICT enabled economies? Are Governments executing legal changes to enable ICT development? What is the role of the ITU Arab Regional Office in the ICT development in the Arab Region?

Panelists:
- **Mr. Sami Albasheer Al Morshid,** Director Telecommunication Development Bureau, International Telecommunications Union, Switzerland
- **Dr. Miloud Ameziane**, Head of Arab Regional Office, International Telecommunications Union, Egypt
- **Dr. Riad Bahsoun,** Vice Chairman of the Board, SAMENA, UAE
- **Dr. Bilal Alayli**, President, Lebanese Order of Engineers & Architects
- **Mr. Gabriel Deek**, President, Professional Computer Association-PCA, Lebanon

15:00 Lunch

*This program is subject to change as seen necessary by the organizers