

TRA Bahrain Launches Consultation on Direct-to-Device Satellite Services to further enhance Mobile Coverage

Manama

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) has announced the launch of a public consultation on a landmark proposal to authorize Satellite Direct-to-Device (D2D) services in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This initiative represents a major step in reinforcing Bahrain's position as one of the best-connected nations in the world.

The proposal is a key element of TRA's strategy to position Bahrain as a global leader in connectivity and digital innovation.

By enabling standard mobile phones to connect directly to satellites in areas beyond terrestrial network coverage, the TRA aims to ensure that no citizen, resident, or visitor is ever without access to essential communication services.

Philip Marnick, General Director of the TRA, commented: "Broadband and mobile connectivity are essential; we all rely on them every day. This consultation marks a significant step towards a future where every part of Bahrain is within reach. We aim to ensure that



Philip Marnick, General Director of the TRA

Bahrain continues to enjoy world-leading connectivity at

globally competitive prices. The introduction of Direct-to-Device satellite services is not just about technology; it is about safety, economic opportunity, and national resilience. By pioneering this service, we reaffirm Bahrain's commitment to being at the forefront of the digital world, ensuring everyone remains connected wherever they are."

Under the proposed framework, licensed Mobile Network Operators (MNOS) in Bahrain would be able to partner with global satellite operators to provide

seamless coverage. This model enables a standard mobile handset to automatically switch to a satellite network for emergency SMS, low-speed data, and, in later phases, voice services when available.

Mr. Marnick added: "Bahrain already enjoys full nationwide 4G and 5G coverage, but this new service will be transformative, especially for those working at sea, and during any potential network disruptions. It will strengthen maritime safety, support critical economic sectors, and deliver greater

reliability and resilience across the Kingdom's communications infrastructure."

The TRA has published a consultation paper on its website outlining the proposed licensing framework, including a draft schedule for inclusion within the Individual Mobile Telecommunications Licence (IMTL). The Authority invites all interested parties, including licensees, industry stakeholders, and members of the public, to review the document and submit their feedback.

Tamkeen launches the "NextGen Board" initiative to strengthen the leadership skills of its youth and foster a culture of innovation

Manama

The Labour Fund "Tamkeen" announced the launch of the "NextGen Board" in line with efforts to elevate the leadership skills of young Bahraini employees at the Labour Fund and encourage a culture of innovation.

The "NextGen Board" brings together talented Tamkeen employees under the age of 30 to spearhead initiatives that drive innovation, including key projects in sustainability and corporate social responsibility. As



representatives of the youth, members will also be empowered through training and by participating in management meetings to foster knowledge exchange and professional growth.

The board will also work on providing practical proposals to enhance sustainability practices within Tamkeen, in addition to developing mechanisms that increase the participation of "Tamkeen" employees in social-

ly impactful projects reflecting its commitment to corporate social responsibility.

"The launch of this initiative at Tamkeen stems from our deep belief in the young talents within the organization and our recognition of the unique perspectives this group brings to the decision-making process," commented Ms. Eman Al Sharif, the Chief Human Resources Officer at the Labour Fund "Tamkeen". "This initiative reflects our aspirations to establish an institutional model rooted in forward-thinking and inclusivity



Eman Al Sharif, the Chief Human Resources Officer at the Labour Fund

ity by giving young employees the opportunity to contribute to shaping strategic directions and building professional net-

works that support knowledge exchange and enhance collaboration."

"Through Next Gen Board, we aim to empower our young employees and enhance their leadership capabilities, contributing to the preparation of a qualified generation equipped to take on future responsibilities. It also promotes the renewal of ideas and fosters a culture of innovation and creativity in our work - impacting the value we deliver to both the Bahraini community and the labor market."

Al Baraka Islamic Bank Celebrates Three alBarakat September Grand Prize Winners

Manama

Al Baraka Islamic Bank Bahrain held a special ceremony at its headquarters located in Bahrain Bay to award its three alBarakat grand prize winners for September 2025.

Husain Abdullah Almutawa, Mohamed Ali Hasan, and Hasan Ahmed Albarri each received a cash prize of \$100,000 in a happy celebration attended by their families and members of the Bank's officials.

The Bank's team congratulated the winners, underscoring Al Baraka Islamic Bank's commitment to sharing its customers



ers wins, rewarding their trust and loyalty, and strengthening mutual relationships through innovative savings programs that combine safe savings with opportunities to win valuable cash prizes.

Commenting on the occasion, Mazin Dhaif, Chief Retail Of-

ficer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank, stated: "We are delighted to celebrate this special event with our valued customers, reflecting Al Baraka Islamic Bank's ongoing commitment to rewarding their trust and loyalty. Moments like these demonstrate our dedication to providing a compre-

hensive banking experience grounded in quality and true value. We are honoured to be part of our customers' successes and the realisation of their dreams."

He added: "We extend our congratulations to the winners and wish them continued

success. We also invite all our valued customers to continue saving and investing with Al Baraka Islamic Bank to enhance their chances of winning future prizes, especially with the upcoming 'Barakat Al Million' draw, which offers a chance to win \$1,000,000 and other distinguished cash prizes."

He concluded: "The alBarakat Account embodies Al Baraka Islamic Bank's vision of promoting responsible savings among individuals and families, offering innovative Shari'a-compliant financial solutions that deliver added value and rewards customers' commitment to pos-

itive savings."

The alBarakat prize scheme continues to offer customers unique opportunities. The November draw is scheduled for 13 November 2025, with a total prize value of \$350,000 while the December draw is scheduled for 28 December 2025, with a prize value of \$250,000.

Customers are encouraged to open an alBarakat Account or increase their current balances before 19 October 2025 to enhance their winning chances for the November draw, and before 24 November 2025 for the December draw.

Joining Forces for Breast Cancer Awareness: RCSI Medical University of Bahrain Partners with the Muharraq Governorate and Primary Healthcare Centres

Manama

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) - Medical University of Bahrain was honoured to welcome a delegation from the Muharraq Governorate and Primary Healthcare Centres to campus on 8 October, marking a shared commitment to advancing community health through collaboration during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Professor Sameer Otoom, President of RCSI Medical University of Bahrain, accompanied by members of the University management, extended appreciation to His Excellency Brigadier Jassim Al-Ghatam, Deputy Governor of Muharraq Governorate, Dr Mona Almeihri, Chief for Maternal and Child Health



at the Primary Healthcare Centres, Dr Sara Altamimi, Family Medicine Physician at the Primary Healthcare Centres, and Mr Fawaz Yousef Alabdullah, Director of Information at the Muharraq Governorate, for their leadership and partnership in supporting the initiative.

The collaboration between the Muharraq Governorate, the Ministry of Health, Primary Healthcare Centres and RCSI Medical University of Bahrain,

provided a free breast examination service hosted on the University campus, ensuring residents of the Muharraq Governorate could access vital screening and early detection support. The initiative continues throughout October, with additional appointments expected.

In alignment with the University's mission to serve the local community and strengthen healthcare awareness, medical

students volunteered under the supervision of Dr Altamimi to assist with appointment management and clinical observation. Beyond the screening initiative, 108 student volunteers dedicated over 60 hours of community service to organise on-campus fundraising activities in support of Think Pink Bahrain and the Bahrain Cancer Society.

His Excellency Brigadier Jassim Al-Ghatam added, "The

Muharraq Governorate is proud to work alongside RCSI Medical University of Bahrain and the Primary Healthcare Centres in initiatives that prioritise the wellbeing of our citizens. Such partnerships reflect our shared vision for a healthier, more informed community, where preventive care and early detection are at the forefront of public health efforts."

Professor Sameer Otoom commented, "At RCSI Medi-

cal University of Bahrain, our mission is to have a positive impact on the local community through healthcare education, research, and community service. This collaboration with the Muharraq Governorate and the Primary Healthcare Centres reflects our joint commitment of working collaboratively to advance awareness, prevention, and early detection of prevalent diseases affecting society."

This collaboration reflects a shared vision of social responsibility, fostering health literacy about prevalent diseases to empower individuals and communities to lead healthier lives, and the collective pursuit of improved health outcomes for the people of the Kingdom of Bahrain.