



10th Annual ARABCOM 2007
April 11th 2007

Welcome Address and Strategic Outlook

H.E Engineer Al Mansouri

Minster of Development for the Government
Sector

Say it on his Behalf

H.E

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Minister of Culture, Youth and Community
Development



Good morning.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the UAE and this important conference of decision-makers from the telecommunications industry. This level of attendances reflects the rapid development of IT and Telecom sectors in the whole world and the leading position of the UAE in adopting the best technologies. To all of you, I extend my warmest welcome.

The 10th annual round of Arab Com comes in the time where the Arab countries are giving great attention for the IT and Telecom services. These countries are achieving great success through providing the best and innovative services. As well, all of us here today are committed to the growth of the telecommunications industry, both within the region and beyond.

Arab Com has proven during the 10 past years high contribution in developing the telecommunications industry in the Arab countries, through shortening the distance between the Government and the private sector.

The previous development of the telecommunications industry contributed in creating a lot of partenetships between global telecom and IT companies, in the purpose of



combining sources and restructuring the operations. Arab com has been and still the right platform for those companies to meet and showcase its latest technologies.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am all proud to highlight the leading role of the UAE in widening the participation of the private sector to develop the national telocommunications, followed by the wise instructions of H.H Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Alnahayan, the UAE president and H.H Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice president and Ruler of Dubai and their brothers the Emirates rulers.

Today, UAE leads the Arab countries in terms of internet penetrations, where it ranked 60 % for the internet users and 34 % for the broadband users. In addition to that, the new penetration of Du to the market will enhance the competition and will increase the number of users for both mobile phones and internet.

The opportunities for the future are great, and releasing the UAE market will open the door for the IT and telecom sectors, and will also increase the opportunities to develop added value services, through enhancing the spirit of competition and innovation.

On that note, I'd like to conclude by wishing you an enjoyable, educational conference. I once again extend my warmest welcome to each one of you. Thank you.