

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **VODAFONE QATAR JOINS INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**

**Doha, 04 June 2014:** Vodafone Qatar announced it has become a sector member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), a specialized agency of the United Nations. Headquartered in Geneva, the ITU is made up of over 700 members and associates from the private sector and academia, in addition to 193 government members. Vodafone Qatar will participate in ITU's Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), which assembles experts from around the world to develop standards and protocols for the global information and communication technologies (ICT) industry.

The ITU-T's standardization work is carried out by Study and Working Groups, in which sector members develop Recommendations for respective areas of ICT. To date, over 3,000 ITU Recommendations define the operation and security of the global ICT infrastructure.

Kyle Whitehill, Chief Executive Officer of Vodafone Qatar, said: "We're very honoured and excited to be part of this prestigious organization and join hands with world's experts to help take the ICT industry, especially in Qatar, to newer heights in line with Qatar's vision to become one of the world's leading smart cities by 2030. Vodafone Qatar will bring a solid track record, knowledge and expertise to ITU's local, regional and global discussions and strongly contribute to further build the fundamental standards of our industry. We also look forward to adding great value to conversations and initiatives around smart cities and the Internet of Things (IoT)."

"I am delighted to welcome Vodafone Qatar to ITU-T," said Malcolm Johnson, Director of ITU's Telecommunication Standardization Bureau. "Their contribution to this body will be immeasurable both in regards to their technological expertise in the areas of M2M technologies and smart cities but also their contribution to the overall mission of the ITU."

Vodafone Qatar is planning to participate in ITU-led discussions and dialogues to help raise the bar of the industry locally and regionally. With credentials of over 20 years in Machine to Machine (M2M) technology, Vodafone Qatar is perfectly placed to strongly contribute to smart cities conversations and standards and bring much needed expertise from the heart of a country that is looking to become one of the most connected places in the world.

Ends.

#### **About ITU**

ITU is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technology. For nearly 150 years, ITU has coordinated the shared global use of the radio spectrum, promoted international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, worked to improve communication infrastructure in the developing world, and established the worldwide standards that foster seamless interconnection of a vast range of communications systems. From broadband networks to new-generation wireless technologies, aeronautical and maritime navigation, radio astronomy, satellite-based meteorology and converging fixed-mobile phone, Internet and broadcasting technologies, ITU is committed to connecting the world. [www.itu.int](http://www.itu.int)

**About Vodafone Qatar Q.S.C.**

Vodafone Qatar Q.S.C. ("Vodafone Qatar") is the holder of the Second Public Mobile and Fixed Telecommunications Networks and Services License in the State of Qatar.

Vodafone Qatar switched on its mobile network on 1 March 2009 and shortly after started delivering great value to its customers with a range of exciting products and services.

Having built a world class converged IP network, Vodafone launched fibre-based consumer and enterprise fixed-line services commercially in October 2012 and is expanding its fibre services in conjunction with Qnbn deployment of Fibre to Homes and Corporates.

Vodafone's objective is to be one of the most admired brands in Qatar and the Company is committed to providing world class telecommunications infrastructure to support Qatar National Vision 2030. Please visit [www.vodafone.qa](http://www.vodafone.qa) for more details.

**For press enquiries, please contact:**

Hala Kassab, Media Relations Manager, Vodafone Qatar

E-mail: [hala.kassab@vodafone.com](mailto:hala.kassab@vodafone.com)