

Mr. Sami S. Al-Basheer, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau

Mr. Sami S. Al-Basheer is the elected Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau. He took office on 1 January 2007.

With over twenty-three years experience in telecommunications, Mr. Al-Basheer gained a major part of his experience in the Saudi Arabian Government, dealing with international coordination and the development of economic and financial policy and regulatory aspects of telecommunications; heading a department responsible for telecommunication policy and investment at a national and international level; and acting as Adviser on international relations and regulatory issues to the Minister of Communications and Information Technology. He was also a Board Member of the Communications and Information Technology Commission.

His experience encompasses leading roles at the international level, acting as Chairman and participant in high-level conferences at international organizations including ITU. Comprising of a career that has spanned continents, he was Director, Middle East and North Africa Affairs, at ICO Teledesic GL, Seattle, USA, where he coordinated the introduction of ICO interests in the Middle Eastern and North African countries. As Chief of the Regional Office for the Arab States of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Cairo, Egypt, he directed the work of the Office, contributing to the development of telecommunications in the region.

Mr. Al Basheer is an avid supporter of Human Capacity Building projects for Least Developed and Developing Countries, and is convinced of the key role that Human Capital plays in achieving ambitious objectives in the development of telecommunications/ICT networks, with the goal of providing access to, and for, all.