

Year in review

24 January

Launch of first Joint ICT Academy in the Kingdom

Mobily and Huawei signed an agreement to create the first Joint ICT Academy in the Kingdom, which aims to develop 300 Huawei certified ICT specialists for Mobily before 2020. It will give college students who have demonstrated interest in the ICT sector an opportunity to become Huawei-certified ICT professionals, serving to minimize the gap between the availability of ICT industry talent and what will be needed to fulfil the Kingdom's Vision 2030.

28 April

Start of 5G Network Testing

Mobily successfully conducted 5G (fifth generation) site tests in cooperation with Ericsson, reaching speeds in excess of 1 Gbps (over 1,000 megabits per second). The tests are the first such tests in the Haram area of Makkah, which has one of the highest concentrations of mobile users in the world. Upon deployment, 5G will boost customer experience and spur a new round of growth and innovation.

24 February

Appointment of new CEO

Mobily announced the appointment of Eng. Salman Abdulaziz R. Al Badran to the position of CEO effective 1 April 2019, as part of promoting talented and experienced Saudi executives and consistent with Government vision. He takes over from Eng. Ahmed AbouDoma, who consistently made improvements in the operational and financial performance over the previous 2 years.

14 May

Approval of Bayanat Telecom Company Merger

Mobily shareholders approved the merger of Bayanat Telecom Company (the merged company) with its rights and obligations, including all intellectual rights represented in names, trademarks, all assets with their contents, all projects, contracts, and works that the merged company is a part of, and including all technical and administrative elements and licenses that Bayanat owns in Mobily (the merging company). This comes after Mobily's acquisition of the entire shares of the National Company for Business Solutions in Bayanat Telecom Company, which represent 1500 shares out of 150,000 shares, and converting Bayanat Telecom Company as one person partnership in accordance with all applicable procedures and in compliance with the request of Saudi Arabia's Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC).

19 May

Appointment of new CFO

Mobily appointed Khaled Abanami as the Company's Chief Financial Officer (CFO), replacing Kais Ben Hamida, to empower national talent to lead the Company's key roles. Abanami has significant experience in leading finance functions with extensive knowledge of the telecom sector, financial restructuring, finance, cost reduction, IFRS implementation, and digital transformation, which will help the Company in its coming phase of growth and value creation.

19 November

Signing of Alinma Bank Financing agreement

Mobily signed a financing agreement with Alinma Bank for SAR 3 billion over 10 years to replace existing debt, and for general corporate purposes, including capital expenditure.

15 December

Signing of Refinancing Murabaha Facility agreement

Mobily signed a SAR 7.6 billion refinancing Murabaha Facility Agreement with a group of Saudi Banks, including Riyadh Bank (Agent), Arab National Bank, Banque Saudi Fransi, Saudi British Bank and SAMBA Financial Group, with the purpose of replacing the existing syndicate financing and reducing the cost of financing with better financing Terms and Conditions.

Recognition of our achievements

During 2019, we were proud to receive a number of high-profile awards and recognitions, honoring the progress we've made in consistently delivering market leading service to our customers. These included:

- HRH Prince Khaled Al Faisal honoring Mobily for its strategic partnership in the campaign "Hajj is Worship and Civilized Behavior".
- The Minister of Communications and Information Technology honoring Mobily for its outstanding role in the Universal Service Fund (USF) project.
- The Communications Authority honoring Mobily for its contribution to the success of the operational plan for the Hajj season.
- The Saudi Minister of Labor and Social Development honoring Mobily for its contribution with Ekhaa program.
- MENA Search Awards honoring Mobily with the award for "Best Arabic PPC Campaign".