



AREGNET Workshop on Peering and Interconnection in the Arab World
“Towards Unlocking Regional Interconnection Opportunities”
Bahrain, 2 October 2018

Agenda

8:15 – 8:30	Registration
8:30 – 8:55	Opening
9:00 – 10:30	<p>Session 1 - Panel Discussion: <i>“Internet exchange points in the Arab region and opportunities for a strong peering industry”</i></p> <p>This session will look at the regional peering landscape and discuss the status of IXPs in Arab countries. It will explore traffic patterns and various business models for local and regional peering, by drawing on similarities and lessons learned from other regions. It will further discuss the impact of IXPs and IXP associations, highlighting efforts to boost regional interconnection and the benefits of enabling a strong peering industry within the region.</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Christine Arida, Executive Director for Telecom Services and Planning, National Telecom Regulatory Authority of Egypt</i></p> <p>Panelists: <i>Ian Cleary, Head of Interconnection for Middle East, Google</i> <i>Martin Levy, Network Strategy, Cloudflare Inc.</i> <i>Kyle Spencer, Chairman and Executive Director of the Uganda Internet eXchange Point (UIXP), Co-Coordinator of the African IXP Association (AFIX)</i></p>
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15	<p>Session 2 – Panel Discussion: <i>“The regulatory environment and a roadmap towards an enabled regional peering ecosystem”</i></p> <p>This session will discuss the regulatory environment and policies necessary to enable growth of the peering industry in Arab countries and ways to unleash regional peering opportunities. The discussion will aim at identifying ways to address regulatory bottlenecks and discuss the need for policy harmonization to enable cross-border interconnection. Participants will attempt to set a roadmap for the way forward and identify mechanisms for future collaboration among the peering community in the Arab region.</p>

	<p>Moderator: <i>Aftab Siddiki, Technical Engagement Manager, Internet Society (ISOC)</i></p> <p>Panelists: <i>Osama AIDosary, Advisor, and Director General For Infrastructure Development, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Saudi Arabia</i></p> <p><i>Hani Iskandarani, Managing Director, BalanceOn Technologies</i></p> <p><i>Yousef ALTorman, Managing Director, Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN)</i></p>
12:20 – 12:30	Wrap-up & Closing