

1st February 2011

Press Release

Samer Halawi Appointed CEO of Thuraya

Abu Dhabi, 1st February 2011: --- Thuraya Telecommunications Company, a leader in mobile satellite communications, is announcing the appointment of Mr. Samer Halawi as Chief Executive Officer of the company. Mr. Halawi assumed the office on 23rd January 2011 following the return of Mr. Yousuf Al Sayed to the Etisalat Group.

Mr. Halawi has held several leadership positions in major regional and international telecom firms. Most importantly, he brings with him several years of experience in managing satellite telecom businesses and major customers across the Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific.

Thuraya's Chairman, Mr. Mohammad Omran, said on this occasion: "The mobile satellite market is going through dynamic changes at global levels. We at Thuraya believe that Mr. Halawi has excellent market know-how and the leadership qualities that will enable our company to capitalize on the many opportunities emerging in the industry, and that will drive Thuraya towards greater levels of growth and prosperity".

Mr. Al Sayed, who has been the Company's CEO since 1998 and who built a strong presence for Thuraya in the international satellite telecom market, will now serve as Board Member of the Company.

Thuraya leads the mobile satellite telecom industry in handheld voice solutions with nearly 70% market share in its 140-country coverage area spanning Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia Pacific, and Australia. In recent years, Thuraya has developed state-of-the-art and innovative voice, data, and video solutions for the maritime, land, and aero sectors, targeting the major government customers, the different vertical industries, and horizontal markets across the coverage area.

- Ends -

About Thuraya (www.thuraya.com)

Thuraya provides cost-effective mobile satellite services in more than 140 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia and the Middle East. Services provided by Thuraya include broadband, maritime, mobile voice that support dual GSM and satellite mode, rural



telephony, fleet management and other advanced applications that enable people and businesses everywhere under its coverage to enjoy constant access to communications and information. Thuraya's target markets are the oil and gas industry, media, government and military, mining, agriculture, NGOs, and maritime and aviation industries.

The Company launched its third satellite in January 2008, which has brought countries of the Asia-Pacific region under its footprint and extended its coverage to nearly two thirds of the globe's population.

Thuraya was founded in 1997 by a consortium of leading national telecommunications operators and reputed investment firms from the region.

For more information, please contact:

Mr. Ebrahim K. Ebrahim
Corporate Communications Department
Thuraya Telecommunications Co.
Post Box 283333 Dubai, UAE
Tel: 971-4-4488-828
Fax: 971-4-4488-899
Email: e_ebrahim@thuraya.com