

**Ooredoo Kuwait reports revenue of KWD 154 million for Q1 2019
Customer base increased by 6% to exceed 27 million**

Kuwait City, Kuwait, 25th April 2019: National Mobile Telecommunications Company K.S.C.P “Ooredoo Kuwait” (Ticker: OOREDOO) announced today its financial results for the quarter ended 31 March 2019:

Financial Highlights:

	Quarterly Analysis		
	Q1 2019	Q1 2018	% change
Consolidated Revenue (KWD m)	154.2	174.6	-12%
EBITDA (KWD m)	58.6	55.3	6%
<i>EBITDA margin (%)</i>	38%	32%	-
Net Profit attributable to NMTC (KWD m)	8.8	9.2	-4%
Consolidated Customers (m)	27.4	25.8	6%

Financial highlights:

- Consolidated customer base increased by 6% to 27.4 million in Q1 2019, compared to 25.8 million in Q1 2018.
- Maldives recorded good growth in revenue and Tunisia increased revenue in local currency terms. However, revenues in KWD were impacted by a 24.1% depreciation of the Tunisian Dinar. Consequently, consolidated revenue decreased by 12% to KWD 154.2 million for Q1 2019, compared to KWD 174.6 million for the same period in 2018.
- EBITDA increased by 6% for Q1 2019 to KWD 58.6 million, compared to KWD 55.3 million for the same period in 2018, supported by the implementation of IFRS 16, a new accounting standard and operational efficiencies.
- Net profit attributable to NMTC was KWD 8.8 million for Q1 2019, compared to KWD 9.2 million for the same period in 2018. The decrease was mainly caused by a lower Algerian contribution due to a weak economic environment, currency devaluation and price competition.
- The consolidated earnings per share was 17.6 fils for Q1 2019, compared to 18.3 fils per share earned for the same period last year.

Sheikh Saud Bin Nasser Al Thani, Chairman of the Board of Directors commented:

“Ooredoo Kuwait (NMTC) had a reasonable start to the year posting a 6% increase in EBITDA to KWD 58.6 million and a net profit of KWD 8.8 million during the first quarter of 2019. This is a result of our renewed focus on cost optimisation as part of our broader digital transformation strategy. The EBITDA increase was also supported by the implementation of IFRS 16, a new accounting standard.

Our top line results remain under pressure as we navigate the unique challenge in each of our territories against a backdrop of a globally evolving telecommunications industry and unfavourable Foreign Exchange rates. We reported revenues of KWD 154.2 million for the Q1 2019 compared with KWD 174.6 million for the same quarter last year.

At the centre of everything we do is our vision to enrich the digital lives of our customers, which means staying abreast of the latest trends in the telecom sector and adapting our offering to meet the evolving needs of our customers. Our success in this regard is reflected by the 6% increase in our group customer base, compared to the same quarter last year, to 27.4 million at the end of Q1 2019.

Financially, we reported a good set of results with most of our operations reporting an increase in EBITDA. However, a weak economic environment and price competition in Algeria contributed to the decrease in group net profit during the period.

In Kuwait, we made significant strides towards improving our margin, resulting in a 48% increase in EBITDA during the quarter as compared to the same period last year. This was largely driven by a reduction in handset sale as well as improved efficiencies and cost optimisations.

In Tunisia, we increased our customer base by 7% confirming our position as the Number 1 mobile telecom player.

In Algeria we made good progress in preparing for a data centric future, by increasing the coverage of our 4G network, and increasing our subscriber base by 4%.

In Palestine we performed exceptionally well, with EBITDA increasing 71% as compared to the same period last year. Growth in Palestine was supported by a 7% increase in our customer base and various cost optimisation initiatives.

Maldives performed well, with a 9% increase in EBITDA and a healthy customer base of 462,000 customers, up by 5% compared to last year.”

Review of Operations

The Group's operational performance can be summarized as follows:

Ooredoo - Kuwait

Ooredoo's customer base in Kuwait increased to 2.5 million in Q1 2019, up by 13% compared to Q1 2018. Revenues for Q1 2019 were KWD 56.1 million, compared to KWD 65.5 million in Q1 2018. EBITDA was strong, increasing to KWD 17.5 million for Q1 2019, compared to KWD 11.8 million for Q1 2018. The increase of 48% reflected good operational efficiencies across the business as well as a positive impact of the new IFRS 16 accounting standard.

Ooredoo - Tunisia

Ooredoo's customer base in Tunisia increased 7% to reach 9.1 million customers in Q1 2019, compared to the same period in 2018. The Tunisian Dinar depreciated by 24.1% year on year, leading to a decrease in revenues from KWD 31.9 million in Q1 2018 to KWD 27.4 million in Q1 2019. In local currency terms, revenues were up by 6.7%. EBITDA was KWD 11.8 million in Q1 2019 compared to KWD 11.9 million in Q1 2018.

Ooredoo – Algeria

Customer base in Algeria increased by 4% to 14.0 million in Q1 2019, compared to Q1 2018. Business in Algeria was negatively impacted by the devaluation of the Algerian Dinar, weak economic environment and price competition. Revenues also decreased to KWD 53.7 million in Q1 2019, compared to KWD 60.4 million in Q1 2018. EBITDA was KWD 21.7 million in Q1 2019, down from KWD 25.2 million in Q1 2018. Algerian Dinar depreciated by 2.9% year on year.

Ooredoo - Palestine

Customer base in Palestine increased by 7% to reach 1.3 million customers in Q1 2019. Revenue slightly decreased to KWD 7.0 million in Q1 2019, compared to KWD 7.1 million in Q1 2018. EBITDA was strong, increasing to KWD 1.9 million in Q1 2019 compared to KD 1.1 million in Q1 2018, up 71% compared to the previous year.

Ooredoo - Maldives

Ooredoo Maldives reported a 3% increase in revenues to KWD 10.0 million in Q1 2019, compared to KWD 9.6 million in Q1 2018. EBITDA for Q1 2019 was KWD 5.7 million, an increase of 9% compared to KWD 5.2 million for the same period in 2018. Ooredoo Maldives now serves a total of 462k customers

For more information, please visit www.ooredoo.com.kw

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About Ooredoo Kuwait (NMTC)

Commercially launched in December 1999, the Company's share price as of 31 March 2019 was KWD 0.737, giving a market valuation for Ooredoo (NMTC) of KWD 0.4 Billion.