

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TAIB BROKERAGE UNIT EXPANDS TRADING ACCESS

Global trading access now reaches over 30 capital markets

MANAMA, BAHRAIN - 29 August 2006: TAIB Bank B.S.C. (c) today announced that its affiliate TAIB Securities WLL, a leading brokerage company in Bahrain, has added Lebanon, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Denmark and Spain for trading access. These five new markets now place TAIB Securities' global coverage in excess of 30 markets, encompassing the GCC region, MENA, Asia, Europe and the United States.

"By year-end, we hope to further increase our coverage", commented TAIB Securities head Ali Al-Bastaki. "Our approach is simple: The better the trading access, the more investment opportunity our clients have. We call it Global Reach because our clients can buy equities, fixed income investments and commodities around the globe with just one account", added Al-Bastaki. "The reality is that if you want to buy AL EMAR, TATA, NOKIA and SUMITOMO all in one day, having multi-market access via a single account adds ease and efficiency to the trading experience", concluded Al-Bastaki. At TAIB Securities, clients view all trading activity on consolidated statements, and can also take advantage of a daily trading service which provides same-day trading without waiting for settlement. Both broker-assisted and state-of-the-art online services are available.

TAIB Securities, established in 1994, serves the public and private sectors. Its mid-year 2006 trading volume exceeded US\$500 million. Proprietary market research, including analysis on the GCC market, is issued regularly and on a complimentary basis to users who register on www.taibdirect.com. In September, all research will be available in Arabic.

TAIB Bank B.S.C., the Bahrain-based private bank that focuses on seizing regional investment opportunities for HNW individuals and institutions, is listed on the Bahrain Stock Exchange. It conducts business in the GCC, Europe, India, Kazakhstan, the U.K. and U. S.