

# Hutchison Whampoa Limited

*(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)*

**(Stock Code: 013)**

## **OVERSEAS REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Please refer to the attached press release dated 23 May 2008 issued by Partner Communications Company Ltd., a subsidiary of Hutchison Whampoa Limited held through Hutchison Telecommunications International Limited.

As at the date of the announcement, the Directors of Hutchison Whampoa Limited are:

**Executive Directors:**

Mr. LI Ka-shing (*Chairman*)  
Mr. LI Tzar Kuoi, Victor (*Deputy Chairman*)  
Mr. FOK Kin-ning, Canning  
Mrs. CHOW WOO Mo Fong, Susan  
Mr. Frank John SIXT  
Mr. LAI Kai Ming, Dominic  
Mr. KAM Hing Lam

**Non-executive Directors:**

Mr. George Colin MAGNUS  
Mr. William SHURNIAK

**Independent Non-executive Directors:**

The Hon. Sir Michael David KADOORIE  
Mr. Holger KLUGE  
Mr. William Elkin MOCATTA  
*(Alternate to The Hon. Sir Michael  
David Kadoorie)*  
Mr. OR Ching Fai, Raymond  
Mr. WONG Chung Hin

Hong Kong, 23 May 2008



partner communications

**PARTNER COMMUNICATIONS ANNOUNCES COURT RULING AGAINST CELLULAR OPERATORS' USE OF EXEMPTION FROM OBTAINING BUILDING PERMITS FOR CERTAIN SMALL CELLULAR RADIO ACCESS DEVICES**

***ROSH HA'AYIN, Israel, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008*** - Partner Communications Company Ltd. ("Partner" or "the Company") (NASDAQ and TASE: PTNR), a leading Israeli mobile communications operator, announced that on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 the Tel-Aviv-Jaffa District Court ruled against the appeals submitted by Partner and two other mobile communications operators and decided that the exemption from obtaining building permit for wireless access devices under a provision of the Communications Law (Telecommunications and Broadcasting), 1982 and the Building and Planning Law, 1965 did not apply to certain small cellular radio access (wireless communication) devices deployed by the mobile communications operators, and that a building permit must therefore be obtained to install such devices.

Partner notes that there had been a number of justice court rulings on this matter, resulting in conflicting decisions and that this latest ruling from the District Court is contrary to the legal opinion given by the Israeli Attorney General on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. Partner believes that the District Court's ruling is in error, and plans to vigorously contest it by seeking leave to appeal the ruling to the Supreme Court.

For additional details see the Company's 2007 Annual Report (20-F), Section 3D.

## **Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the US Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Section 21E of the US Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the safe harbor provisions of the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as "believe", "anticipate", "expect", "intend", "seek", "will", "plan", "could", "may", "project", "goal", "target" and similar expressions often identify forward-looking statements but are not the only way we identify these statements. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this press release regarding our future performance, plans to increase revenues or margins or preserve or expand market share in existing or new markets, reduce expenses and any statements regarding other future events or our future prospects, are forward-looking statements.

We have based these forward-looking statements on our current knowledge and our present beliefs and expectations regarding possible future events. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions about Partner, consumer habits and preferences in cellular telephone usage, trends in the Israeli telecommunications industry in general and possible regulatory and legal developments. For a description of some of the risks we face, see "Item 3D. Key Information - Risk Factors", "Item 4. - Information on the Company", "Item 5. - Operating and Financial Review and Prospects" and "Item 8A. - Consolidated Financial Statements and Other Financial Information - Legal and Administrative Proceedings" in the form 20-F filed with the SEC on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the forward-looking events discussed in this press release might not occur, and actual results may differ materially from the results anticipated. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## **About Partner Communications**

Partner Communications Company Ltd. ("Partner") is a leading Israeli mobile communications operator providing GSM / GPRS / UMTS / HSDPA services and wire free applications under the orange™ brand. The Company provides quality service and a range of features to 2.823 million subscribers in Israel (as of March

31<sup>st</sup>, 2008). Partner's ADSs are quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market™ and its shares are traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (NASDAQ and TASE: PTNR).

Partner is a subsidiary of Hutchison Telecommunications International Limited ("Hutchison Telecom"), a leading global provider of telecommunications services. Hutchison Telecom currently offers mobile and fixed line telecommunications services in Hong Kong, and operates mobile telecommunications services in Israel, Macau, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Vietnam and Indonesia. It was the first provider of 3G mobile services in Hong Kong and Israel and operates brands including "Hutch", "3" and "orange". Hutchison Telecom, a subsidiary of Hutchison Whampoa Limited, is a listed company with American Depositary Shares quoted on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker "HTX" and shares listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong under the stock code "2332". For more information about Hutchison Telecom, see [www.htil.com](http://www.htil.com).

For more information about Partner, see [http://www.orange.co.il/investor\\_site/](http://www.orange.co.il/investor_site/)

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