

## **Ammar Hamadien, Head of Strategic Engagement-MENA, GSMA**

Before joining the GSMA in February, 2017, Ammar Hamadien was Managing Director at Chinguitel in Mauritania. He started his career ICT in the Silicon Valley in the 1990s and has worked for US technology giants such as hp and Cisco Systems.

In 2003 Mr. Hamadien joined Etisalat in the UAE and in 2005 he was part of the team that established Etisalat's unit in Sudan (Canar), where he was responsible for building the IT infrastructure for the new operator.

In 2007, Mr. Hamadien joined Zain-Sudan and, he was transferred to the Zain Group headquarters in Bahrain in 2008, where he played a key role in the expansion of the group in the Middle East in Africa. He has been leading the growth of Zain Group in adjacent businesses and new revenue streams such as Machine-to-Machine, Mobile Financial Services, Business-to-Business products and services since 2010.

Mr. Hamadien holds a MBA in Telecommunications Management from Imperial College-University of London in the UK and BS degree in Business Administration and Information Systems from the California State University-San Jose in USA.

