

General Secretariat

Media and Communication Sector

The address of His Excellency Ambassador Ahmed Rashid Khattabi,

Assistant Secretary-General,

Head of the Media and Communication Sector,

At the opening session of the 21st meeting of the Arab Committee for Electronic Media

Cairo: 13 October 2024

In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you at the headquarters of the League of Arab States, as I wish you success in your efforts under the mandate assigned to this committee. Your mission plays a vital role in advancing our collective work towards the development of the Arab media system in the electronic field.

Allow me to recall that this session is convened within the framework of following up on the implementation of Resolution No. 547, adopted during the 54th Ordinary Session dated 29 May 2024, issued by the Council of Arab Information Ministers in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This resolution includes the invitation extended by the United Arab Emirates, through the Emirates Media Council, to design and launch a website for the Arab Electronic Media Committee by the end of 2024. Additionally, it calls for organising training courses for representatives of member states on the management of this website.

It is important to highlight that this website will adhere to the principles and guidelines set forth in the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council of Arab Information Ministers during the aforementioned session. The goal is to strengthen the Arab media's presence in the digital sphere while upholding the spiritual, moral, and cultural values of our Arab societies. Moreover, the website will ensure respect for the national sovereignty of member states, avoiding any violations thereof.

The principles established in the Code of Conduct are grounded in two core values: the social responsibility of electronic media and the promotion of the public interest of member states. These principles are supported by clear standards of accuracy, credibility, neutrality, and integrity, with content reflecting the values of tolerance and respect for ethnic, religious, and cultural diversity, steering away from any form of discrimination or hatred. Additionally, special consideration is given to media content that addresses the needs of vulnerable groups.

On this occasion, I would like to commend the significant role of the United Arab Emirates in fostering joint Arab cooperation, particularly in the field of media and communication. I also extend my appreciation to the Emirates Media Council for its diligent efforts in preparing the draft website, which will be presented to this committee for a comprehensive and integrated review.

May the peace, mercy, and blessings of God be upon you.