

The address of His Excellency Ambassador Ahmed Rashid Khattabi,  
Assistant Secretary-General and head of the Media and Communication  
Sector,  
League of Arab States

At the Opening Session of the Seventh Arab-Chinese Radio and Television  
Cooperation Forum

Chongqing, China

5 November 2025

Your Excellency Ms. Cao Shumin,

Director of the National Radio and Television Administration,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure, together with my accompanying delegation, to represent  
the League of Arab States at the Seventh Arab-Chinese Radio and  
Television Cooperation Forum. Allow me to begin by expressing my sincere  
gratitude for the warm welcome and excellent organisation of this event in  
Chongqing, a city that stands as a pioneering model of China's

renaissance and a distinguished symbol within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative.

This initiative, with its strategic depth and historical, cultural, and humanitarian roots, represents a partnership in which the League of Arab States was the first regional organisation to sign a document of engagement. This acknowledgment of its significance and far-reaching impact—covering 65 percent of the world’s population and accounting for more than one-quarter of global GDP—attests to its great importance.

Dear Guests,

The convening of this session under the theme “Exchange of Arab and Chinese Civilisations and Audiovisual Innovation for Mutual Gain” clearly underscores the importance of the media dimension in our cooperative relations. These relations, guided by shared principles and an ambitious vision, aim to infuse the Arab–Chinese Forum with renewed vitality and continuity, opening the door to promising new opportunities.

We firmly believe in the vital role of audiovisual technologies in advancing cooperation between the Arab world and the People’s Republic of China. We also value China’s advanced expertise in professional capacity building and digital applications, which can further strengthen this collaboration. Moreover, we affirm the pivotal and influential role of audiovisual media networks in promoting a culture of peace, dialogue, and understanding, while fully respecting national sovereignty and individual particularities.

In this context, the Arab side reaffirms its appreciation for the initiatives launched by His Excellency President Xi Jinping, including the Global

Civilisation Initiative, which is founded on respect for cultural diversity, peaceful coexistence, adherence to international governance, and the pursuit of dialogue as a means to resolve areas of tension and envision a better future for humanity—one that is currently facing mounting pressures and accelerating transformations in the global geostrategic landscape.

In the same vein, we commend China's principled and supportive stance on the Palestinian cause in light of the tragic consequences of the Israeli war on the Gaza Strip and the continued provocative assaults on cities in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. We affirm that genuine commitment by international and regional partners to building a sustainable peace remains the only path towards rescuing peace and safeguarding it from extremist forces, thereby putting an end to decades of devastating wars in the Middle East and creating the necessary conditions for a climate conducive to the two-state solution, in full conformity with the relevant resolutions of international legitimacy.

Distinguished Guests,

The convening of this session provides an opportunity to reaffirm our determination to advance audiovisual cooperation. We look forward to closer exchanges in communication technologies, innovation, artificial intelligence, cybernetworks, and other related fields. Such efforts will diversify and deepen our cooperation and contribute to establishing the ethics and principles of a balanced global media system that addresses the challenges faced by countries of the Global South as they pursue modernisation and comprehensive development.

Accordingly, we must continue to ensure the effective implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the League of Arab States and the National Radio and Television Administration of China in December 2023 in Hangzhou. This will further promote mutual media coverage, the exchange of news and information, joint television production of programmes and documentaries highlighting various aspects of Arab–Chinese relations, as well as the organisation of training sessions, professional workshops, and the sharing of media and digital expertise.

In conclusion, I wish to reiterate my sincere appreciation to the National Radio and Television Administration of China for their outstanding organisation and generous hospitality. I commend their diligent efforts in ensuring the success of this session and extend my best wishes for the success of our deliberations.

Thank you.