

## The address of Mr. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, The Secretary-General of the League of Arab States

At the opening session of the Sixth Edition of the Arab-Chinese Cooperation Forum on Radio and Television

Delivered on his behalf by
His Excellency Ambassador Ahmed Rashid
Khattabi

Assistant Secretary–General and head of the Media and Communication Sector



Mr. Li Shulei

Member of the Chinese Central Political

Committee

Secretary of the Central Bureau and Minister of Central Propaganda,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to participate in the inauguration of the sixth session of the Arab-Chinese Cooperation Forum on Radio and Television. This forum stands out as a crucial component of the broader Arab-Chinese Cooperation Forum in the field of media.

At the outset of my address, I extend my gratitude to the Chinese government, notably the National Radio and Television Administration, and the officials responsible for organising this significant event.



The significance of this forum lies in its role as a platform for consultation, coordination, and the deepening of human and civilisational ties between the Arab world and China. It offers valuable opportunities to enhance and fortify Arab-Chinese relations.

The Arab-Chinese partnership has evolved to a strategic level, epitomised by the inaugural Arab-Chinese summit held in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in December 2022.

The resulting Riyadh Declaration serves as a roadmap for the future of this distinguished partnership.

Our commitment is to bolster this partnership by establishing foundations for development and collaboration in diverse fields, utilising the mechanisms provided by the Arab-Chinese Cooperation Forum.



Additionally, we emphasise the importance of fostering friendly relations between the Arab and Chinese peoples at the grassroots level, spanning cultural, sports, tourism, and media domains.

In this context, it is crucial to underline that the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States will persist in coordinating with Arab and Chinese entities to implement the outcomes of this summit.

These outcomes, articulated in the three documents issued by the summit, encompass politics, economy, trade, investment, intellectual property, energy, agriculture, digital economy, environmental protection, tourism, health, culture, and media.

On this occasion, I cannot overlook the significance of the "Belt and Road" initiative, which presents expansive opportunities for



collaborative efforts and sustainable development. It underscores the building of an Arab-Chinese community for a shared future, rooted in our solid commonalities and ties.

This collaboration is founded upon principles of mutual respect, shared benefits, and the defence of values such as freedom, justice, and fairness in international relations.

From this perspective, I extend my appreciation for China's balanced stance in various international forums, including its recent presidency of the UN Security Council. China has consistently supported legitimate Arab issues, notably the Palestinian cause, actively working towards a just and enduring resolution. This resolution envision two states, the cessation of Israeli occupation, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state along the 1967 lines,



with East Jerusalem as its capital—aligning with pertinent United Nations resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative.

I commend China's ongoing commitment to political consultation, mutual support, and the fortification of solidarity between the involved parties. We are driven by a robust political will to achieve a comprehensive and immediate ceasefire. Furthermore, we aim to put an end to the devastating conflict in the Gaza Strip, where defenceless civilians have endure destruction and forced displacement, with a blatant disregard for the provisions of international humanitarian law.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The significance of organising the Arab-Chinese Cooperation Forum on Radio and Television lies in its role as a permanent mechanism for fostering collaboration, aimed at



encouraging radio and television organisations to establish communication bridges through programme exchanges and joint productions.

Despite the profound technological revolution reshaping the media landscape, radio and television persist as potent and impactful mediums. They compete with various platforms that facilitate an unprecedented flow of news and information, presenting substantial challenges related to professionalism, credibility, and accuracy.

While traditional media's importance as a reliable information source, especially during crises, is evident, these channels must concurrently adapt to technological advancements. They need to navigate information dissemination through diverse media to ensure competitiveness and widespread reach.



Media investment encounters a critical challenge—striking a balance between the media message and financial profitability to ensure sustainability. Therefore, media investment should hinge on meticulous planning, leveraging all available possibilities to achieve financial gains without compromising content and the integrity of the media profession.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The League of Arab States is committed to sustaining this forum as a direct channel of communication between Arab and Chinese media professionals. This commitment is driven by the forum's significance in exchanging experiences, fostering communication and coordination among diverse Arab and Chinese media outlets. The aim is to serve common interests, promote cultural openness, introduce shared heritage, and counteract stereotypes propagated by certain Western media.



We also acknowledge the commendable efforts of the People's Republic of China in advancing its media landscape through the adoption of modern technologies. This presents an opportunity for our nations to collaborate on training programmes that elevate the capabilities of our human resources, refine the skills and expertise of emerging media professionals, and foster an innovative spirit.

In conclusion, I reiterate the General Secretariat's aspiration within the League of Arab States to further enhance Arab-Chinese relations. Through this collaboration, we aim to build a more promising and interconnected future for generations to come.

Thank you all.