

CUTTING SERVICE Jordan

MEDIA SPECIFICS					
Туре	Political, economic and cultural	Political Leaning		Liberal	
Frequency	Daily	Status		Independent	
Circulation	25,000	Ownership		The Jordan Press Foundation	
Readership Profile	Male/ Female; educated, businessmen, corporate and users				
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Media	The Jordan Times	Page	11	11	
Date	12.4.2010	Ad Value	263	263.25 euro	
Source	N/A	Language	English		
Headline	Abu Ghazaleh launches Arab Scientific Research and Education Network				
Summary	Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, chair of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID) of the United Nations announced the launch of the Arab Scientific Research and Education Network (ASREN) at the 3rd EU-MED Event held in Brussels, Belgium.				

Abu Ghazaleh launches Arab Scientific Research and Education Network

TALAL ABU GHAZALEH, chair of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID) of the United Nations announced the launch of the Arab Scientific Research and Education Network (ASREN) at the 3rd EU-MED Event that was held in Brussels last week. This announcement marks a major step towards sustaining



ICT infrastructures for research and education in the Mediterranean region for e-science across the Arab region. "We recognise that investing in science in general and in universities in particular needs to meet the ambitions of the Arab countries, hence, AS-REN will act as an enabler and catalyst for creating investment in the scientific research and development in universities," Abu Ghazaleh said. ASREN is to be created as a legal entity under the auspices of the Arab League and the UN GAID to help secure sustainable e-infrastructures across the Arab world. "ASREN will also adopt GAID's mission for the advancement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through the use of ICT solutions. It is expected that ASREN will act as the Arab regional network for the ICT solutions matrix for the advancement of MDGs under the honorary chairmanship of the UN secretary general," Abu Ghazaleh added. This is a strategic step that is expected to lead to long-term sustainability of einfrastructures in the Mediterranean and the neighbouring Gulf region, potentially serving a population of over 250 million people and ensuring that scientists and academics in the region can continue to participate in world-class research and education activities.