

**Driss Abutajdine, Director of Le Centre National pour la Recherche Scientifique et Technique (CNRST),  
Morocco**

Mr. Driss began his speech by expressing his gratitude to the organizers for choosing Morocco to host this important event and for choosing CNRST as a partner. He also extend the sincere gratitude on behalf of the organizers to His Majesty Mohammed VI for having honored us by granting his patronage to the event.

The development and strengthening of national infrastructures and their networks is an important prerequisite for the research development, because it allows researchers to connect, and enables them to exchange content. Morocco is currently developing a policy to support research through strengthening the infrastructure for both digital access, and sharing heavy equipment access of scientific information, in order to provide Wi-Fi access to all universities and campuses, and to connect them with MARWAN Network; which is now preparing for its fourth release. MARWAN 4 will allow more bandwidth and open the connection to all public and private educational institutions.

MARWAN; like other Arab universities' networks; should not be limited to providing internet access only, but also to allow the exchange and sharing of digital content. And in this direction we propose to develop the Arabic open archives in general, and in the field of humanities and social sciences in particular, this will give visibility to the Arabic scientific output in these areas, allowing the integration and the exchange of its' content on these networks. Morocco has already launched The Moroccan National Thesis Library "Toubkal", in 2008, which is the national catalog of theses and dissertations, Toubkal is an initiative of the Moroccan Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (IMIST) that allows high visibility theses and dissertations in Morocco and in the national magazines online.

Mr. Driss concluded his speech by reiterating his thanks again for choosing Morocco as a host and CNRST as a partner.