## *Message* by H.E.Mr. Azzeddine FARHANE, Ambassador of His Majesty the King of Morocco to Austria

I am greatly honored to address you on the occasion of the Feast of the Throne which marks the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the enthronement of His Majesty King Mohammed VI.

The constraints imposed by the spread of Covid 19 prevent me from the pleasure of meeting you and offering the legendary Moroccan hospitality in celebration of this important event. Nevertheless, allow me to share with you some thoughts in commemoration of this remarkable event so dear to the hearts of Moroccans.

The celebration of the Enthronement Day is an opportunity for the Moroccans to reiterate their national unity around the King and to renew their adhesion to the values of tolerance, solidarity and the firm belief in the common destiny of humankind, that have shaped the Moroccan identity over the centuries.

It is also an opportunity to appreciate the achievements made since the enthronement of His Majesty King Mohammed VI in 1999, within the framework of the wide and in-depth reforms which brought about profound internal changes and greatly enhanced the political stability and the economic growth of the Kingdom.

Under the guidance of HM King Mohammed VI, the Kingdom of Morocco continues to assert and effectively assume a leading role, as a promoter of peace and an actor of sustainable development, which contributes to the strengthening of stability and well-being both in its region and internationally.

This vocation takes its full measure in Africa which is a highly strategic priority for the kingdom. Driven by the leadership of His Majesty, Morocco's Africa vision has strengthened the country's African roots and its solidarity with the Continent through concrete win-win partnerships involving the realization of major structuring projects.

The kingdom of Morocco spares no effort to contribute to the preservation of peace and stability on the Continent, through effective and widely recognized efforts. Among the instances to point in this regard, Morocco's efficient fight against terrorism and dedicated to restore stability and national unity in Libya.

Morocco attaches great importance to the diversification of its partnerships and stands as a pole for stability in North Africa. It enjoys long-standing, deep-rooted and diversified relations with the European Union as a key partner for security, stability and prosperity in the western Mediterranean.

The context of Covid is an opportunity to show solidarity at national, regional and international levels in the face of challenges such those induced by the Covid pandemic. While coping with the pandemic, Morocco showed its remarkable spirit of traditional solidarity with African countries, through the King's initiative to provide 20 African countries medical equipment.

To conclude, I would like to pay great homage to the excellent relations and the friendship between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Austria which enjoy diplomatic ties since almost two and a half centuries, exactly since February 1783, when the first Ambassador of H.M. the Sultan Moulay Mohamed III to the Archduke of Austria, H.M. Joseph II arrived in Vienna.

## Thank you