

Morocco, Italy seal agreements on literacy

Rabat - Morocco's literacy and formal education programs will get a boost by virtue of two agreements signed, here Thursday, by the kingdom and Italy. The agreements include a Memorandum of Understanding and an implementation Memorandum of the partnership agreement on literacy and informal education. The MoU, signed by visiting Italian Foreign Minister, Franco Frattini and State Secretary for primary education, Latifa El Abida, provides for capitalizing on the results yielded by the "basic Arabic literacy programme" and promoting the broadcasting of TV literacy courses in Arabic that were prepared under the literacy programme and respect the values and cultures of the two countries. The basic Arabic literacy programme, funded by Italian Foreign Ministry, was prepared by the International Telematic University "UNINETTUNO" in partnership with the Ministry of national education, higher education, training and scientific research. The implementation Memorandum of the literacy and informal education programme dubbed "Let's learn Arabic" defines the terms for broadcasting, starting in September, of 150 TV literacy courses in Arabic on Morocco's first and fourth channels and on "Raï Nettuno Sat 1" and "Raï 2". The Memorandum was inked by CEO of the national radio and television broadcasting company (SNRT), Fayçal Laraichi, UNINETTUNO superintendent, Maria Amato Garito and by El Abida. Frattini, who was speaking at the signing ceremony, reaffirmed his country's support to Morocco's fight for literacy, a country that is a model for democracy in the Arab world. The agreements signed today come to strengthen the ties of friendship, solidarity and cooperation between the two countries, said Frattini, who started, Wednesday, an official two-day visit to Morocco.

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