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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**LAUSANNE, JANUARY 22, 2026**

**The International Network of Arab and African Journalists commends the organization of the Africa Cup of Nations in Morocco and calls for respect for journalistic ethics**

The International Network of Arab and African Journalists, based in Lausanne, Switzerland, praised the unprecedented professional organization of the 35th edition of the Africa Cup of Nations in the Kingdom of Morocco.

The network congratulated the Moroccan government and the Royal Moroccan Football Federation on the resounding success of this tournament, which honoured the whole of Africa, and affirmed that the Kingdom of Morocco is capable of hosting major sporting events and is fully prepared to host the 2030 World Cup.

The network noted the contents of the Royal Court's statement issued on Thursday, January 22, which affirmed that the Kingdom of Morocco has been and will remain a great African country, faithful to the spirit of brotherhood, solidarity, and respect, and that Morocco will continue its firm and unwavering commitment to a united and prosperous Africa, particularly through the sharing of its experience, expertise, and skills.

The network congratulated the Senegalese national team on reaching the final and winning the cup for the second time.

The president of the network, **Mr Cheikh Tidiane DIOUWARA**, explained that the unfortunate events that took place on the day of the final match at Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium in Rabat had no connection with sportsmanship, noting that they were contrary to the charter of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) and the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA). They must not be repeated in order to preserve Africa's reputation and image in the eyes of the rest of the world.

The network's president called on all African and Arab media professionals to adhere to internationally recognized journalistic ethics in their coverage of sporting events and to refrain from misleading tactics, spreading false news, and publishing.

**Mr Cheikh Tidiane DIOUWARA**