

**Your Royal Highness Prince El Hassan bin Talal**

**Your Excellency Christian Wulff**

**Your Excellencies**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is my honor to launch the 3<sup>rd</sup> German-Arab Water Forum organized jointly with our partners the Euro-Mediterranean-Arab Association, Amman Chamber of Commerce, Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization and the Ministry of Water and Irrigation. Our endeavor through intensive discussions and deliberations would be devoted to one of the most challenging issues of our time and that is water.

The Euro-Mediterranean cooperation has in various fields opened vast horizons for solutions and initiatives that serve various work and life sectors in the Arab region.

**Your Royal Highness, Your Excellencies**

This Forum could not be held at a better, time as Jordan is one of the countries hosting the largest number of refugees and that entails massive economic, security, water and living. The Refugees issue which is a main theme for discussion in the Forum subject represents one of the most serious challenges in the region.

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

I would like to particularly recognize the great work of the Ambassador of the European Union HE Dr. Joanna Wronecka as well as her unmatched support to research in science, knowledge and technical advancement in the Arab world; and her role in boosting Euro-Jordanian relations in all fields.

I wish also to underline the great role carried out by the Arab States Research and Education Network (ASREN) in developing scientific, education and knowledge systems in the Arab world which still since 2011 participate effectively in various projects funded by the European Commission.

I welcome you again and wish to achieve together the best outcome that attains our pioneering role in various issues and levels in the Arab region.