I would like to shed the light on the situation of DAB+ in the Arab Region.

ASBU adapted the DAB+ system years ago, and since then, ASBU worked towards ensuring its widespread implementation over the Arab region, and it is now witnessing a remarkable development in this field.
ASBU has sent a questionnaire to its members in order to update the information about the status on FM and DAB+ in the Arab region. We didn’t receive the new information yet, so for this briefing, I am going to use the information available from the last year, updated by some information received from WorldDAB.

In the next slides, we can notice the development of implementing DAB+ in Arab Region.
DAB+ in the Arab States
Algeria:

- Trial launched in 2018 and ongoing
- 68% population coverage
- Planning underway to migrate from FM to DAB+
Tunisia:

- Regular DAB+ services launched in June 2019
- 51% population coverage
- 18 stations on air
- Aiming for FM switch off by 2025
Saudi Arabia:

- Draft regulation put forward by Saudi Broadcasting Authority, starting from January 2021,
- Radio receivers are required to include DAB+
- Draft regulation applies to automotive, home and portable receivers
Kuwait:

- Regular DAB+ services launched in 2014
- 100% population coverage
- 16 DAB+ stations on air
UAE:

- Trial since 2014
- 1.8 population coverage
- DAB+ receiver specifications published
Bahrain:
- Trial since 2016, 4 Services,
- 40% population coverage

Oman:
- Trial launched 2019
Qatar:

- Trial on air launched July 2019
- 10 DAB+ services on air

Jordan:

- 5 DAB+ services on air since 2017
Radio receivers for the Arab region

The technical committee of ASBU put forward the specifications of the DAB+ receivers and approved it from 2018.

ASBU recommends the members to apply these specifications from 2020.
The specifications which is approved by ASBU meet as much as possible the European requirements that responds to Standards : ETSI TS 103 461 and ETSI TS 103 176

But with three important exceptions where all the receivers should:

- Have the criteria to use the Arabic text
- Provide an AM reception
- Provide an FM reception
Thank You for listening