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## **RESOLUTION HONORING THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE MIDDLE EAST BROADCASTING NETWORKS' ALHURRA AND ALHURRA-IRAQ**

**June 5, 2019**

WHEREAS, Alhurra Television was launched on February 14, 2004, is part of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN), Inc. and will be celebrating its 15th anniversary in 2019;

WHEREAS, Alhurra operates a separate Iraq channel (Alhurra-Iraq) that is one of the top television stations in that country, providing local newscasts and current affairs programs for an Iraqi audience, which is also celebrating its 15th anniversary in 2019;

WHEREAS, in 2018, Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq underwent the most comprehensive transformation since their inception and included substantially increasing the amount of news produced by the two networks, broadening the content with more diverse and hard hitting topics, compelling storytelling, as well as greatly improving the aesthetics of the networks;

WHEREAS, Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq are media outlets that supports and encourages independent voices, reformers and liberal thinkers to share their thoughts and ideas freely, without censorship and government interference;

WHEREAS, Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq's talented and professional journalists courageously report from dangerous areas to provide viewers accurate and unbiased news from the region;

WHEREAS, Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq have earned the trust and confidence of its audience of 16.5 million people every week who tune into the two networks for unbiased news and expert analysis regarding the region, the U.S. and the world;

WHEREAS, Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq serve as a direct line of information regarding the U.S. and U.S. values towards the region, showing all sides of an issue;

WHEREAS, Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq broadcast 24/7 on two separate channels to the Middle East and North Africa and have an all-news website Alhurra.com;

WHEREAS, Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq's mission is to support democratic values by expanding the spectrum of ideas, opinions, and perspectives available in the region's media; and

WHEREAS, Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq are respected sources of news in the region, frequently being cited in articles throughout the Middle East.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Governors and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the U.S. Agency for Global Media that we celebrate and commemorate the 15th anniversary of MBN's Alhurra Television and Alhurra-Iraq Television.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board and CEO applaud and thank current and former

members of the Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq team for their commitment to their audiences and their dedication to professional journalism.