

PR/37/04

EUTELSAT STATEMENT ON AL MANAR

Paris, 14 December 2004

Following the decision announced on December 13 by the French Council of State (*Conseil d'Etat*) to instruct Eutelsat to terminate transmissions in France of Al Manar in a multiplex operated by ARABSAT on Eutelsat's HOT BIRD™ 4 satellite, Eutelsat has been formally notified by ARABSAT that Al Manar has itself voluntarily taken the decision to cease broadcasting on HOT BIRD™ 4. Eutelsat confirms that the channel subsequently ceased transmissions at 15.00 Paris time.

Eutelsat wishes to recognise the particular efforts deployed by the intergovernmental organisation ARABSAT in these circumstances, which also enable continuity of service for the other television and radio channels within its multiplex on HOT BIRD™ 4.

Press contacts at Eutelsat

Vanessa O'Connor, voconnor@eutelsat.fr

Frédérique Gautier, fgautier@eutelsat.fr

Tel: +33 1 53 98 38 88