The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to Rwanda, H.E. Mr Youssef IMANI, made the following declaration following the decision by the State of Israel to "recognise the sovereignty of Morocco over its Southern Provinces:

His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God assist Him, has received a letter from the Israeli Prime Minister, His Excellency Mr Benyamin Netanyahu, concerning the decision of the State of Israel to "recognise the sovereignty of Morocco over the territory of Western Sahara".

Benyamin Netanyahu indicated that his country's position would be "reflected in all the relevant acts and documents of the Israeli Government" and that Israel's decision would be "transmitted to the United Nations, to the regional and international organisations of which Israel is a member, and to all the countries with which Israel maintains diplomatic relations".

On the other hand, the Israeli Prime Minister informed that Israel is positively examining "the opening of a Consulate in the town of Dakhla", as part of the implementation of this State decision".

In this respect, it is important to note that this Israeli recognition constitutes a new victory for Morocco, which consolidates international support for its territorial integrity, following the example of the United States of America in particular.

The forthcoming Israeli Consulate General in Dakhla, which will join the 28 other diplomatic representations of African, Arab and Latin American countries in Morocco's southern provinces, will also facilitate and encourage Israeli and international investment in the Moroccan Sahara.

This important decision bears witness to the development of Israeli-Moroccan cooperation, which will undoubtedly facilitate and encourage Israeli investments in the southern provinces, as well as those from other countries in general.

Israeli recognition of Morocco's sovereignty over its Southern Provinces will also consolidate support for the Moroccan identity of the Sahara and reinforce the favourable dynamic created in the region in recent years, with numerous advances such as the American recognition and the support given to the autonomy plan by more than 15 European countries, including Germany, Spain, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

Moreover, it has to be said that this decision confirms the truth and the right of Morocco and its legitimacy over its Southern Provinces.