



*Ministry of International Cooperation
The Minister*

December 1st, 2008

It is with pleasure that I address the readership of this important booklet focusing on the role of the Canada -Egypt Business Council (CEBC) in strengthening the economic and investment relations between the two countries. Since its foundation in 2002 the CEBC has been successful in promoting the interests of the two nations. It also succeeded, through its regular missions to Canada, to act as a facilitator on behalf of the business communities in both Canada & Egypt as well as, raising the awareness of the Canadian public of the continuous process of economic and political reforms taking place in Egypt.

It was indeed a privilege for me to head, along with my colleague the Minister of Planning, Dr. Osman Mohamed Osman, the CEBC second mission to Canada in 2006. This mission focused on human resource development, transfer of technology as well as enhancing international cooperation with Canada in its broader context, while the mission of 2007 focused on communication and information technology and was headed by the Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Dr. Tarek Kamel. The mission of 2008 focused on higher and technical education and was headed by the Minister of Higher Education and State for Scientific Research, H.E. Dr. Hany Helal. As a matter of fact the diversity of the general themes of the missions is an indication of the wide scope of potential fields of cooperation between Egypt and Canada that can be enhanced. Sustainability is a key characteristic of CEBC missions .It is reflected in the continuous efforts for the enhancement of trade and investment relationships and in following up on the implementation of the issues raised in previous missions .

Also building sustained bridges between the outstanding Egyptian community in Canada and their mother land , was a key element of the visit. My keenness to hold meetings with the Egyptian community in Canada during the visit, arose from a strong belief in the important



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role they can assume in promoting Egyptian causes in Canada. Such a unique initiative mainly aimed at creating a win-win situation for both the Egyptian government and the Egyptian community in Canada.

Finally I would like to extend my appreciation to CEBC members for their valuable and serious efforts in conveying a positive message to the Canadian business community about the ongoing economic reform in Egypt and that our beloved country is open to business.

*Sincerely yours,
Fayza Aboulnaga*

Minister of International Cooperation

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