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Egyptian Council for Sustainable Development
Conseil Égyptien pour le Développement Durable
المجلس المصري للتنمية المستدامة

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Chairman's Welcome Note



Dear Readers,

I welcome you to a new issue of our monthly newsletter.

The fact the new government is operating from the heart of the city among citizens, listening to their problems and discussing possible solutions, gives one an optimistic overview of the future.

One of the crucial issues the country needs to face is real estate investment and financing problems. I see the main focus of the government and the ministry of housing today is to start solving the problems for the citizens most in need, with a special focus on social housing projects in new cities and different Egyptian provinces.

I was so glad to know of the coming two phases, one including around 52,000 units and another which will be implemented over a period of 14 months, has already begun, and will include the building of around 92,000 units.

If we start the coming phase by setting our priorities, among which is studying the housing and real estate issues with a special attention to facilitating loan conditions and developing the procedures that can form challenges for investing in the sector, then we are on the right track.

The government is encouraging the private sector to offer land with infrastructure and utilities, the private sector; however, still doesn't have the necessary utilities or infrastructure but at least all sectors are involved and can work together to run the gear and develop.

In such a critical time all parties should be playing a stimulating and encouraging role and one success story will lead to another and as more projects are being implemented this will help provide job opportunities leading to a healthier investment climate leading to a better living hence a better Egypt.





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Maturity of Interest: 30/8/2012

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Trade Mission

Mining Delegation to Canada



Dr. Muhammad Zaher-CEBC, Mr. Joseph Tadros-Canadian Embassy in Egypt, Dr. Zenhom Alfi, Eng. Hisham Shahri and Mohamed Zakaria

The Canada Egypt Business Council CEBC had the pleasure to participate in the PDAC 2014 with a group of veterans in the field of mining, headed by Dr. Muhammad Zaher, Chairman of the Mining Committee in the CEBC and Chairman of Zgold Resources Co. as well as the Chairman of the Egyptian Mining Investors Association UF.

PDAC Toronto is the largest mining conference in the world, enjoying the attendance of a few thousands of exploration and mining companies as well as a significant number of countries, state geological surveys, suppliers, technical contractors and investors. PDAC 2014 was strongly supported by the attendance of H.E. Prime Minister of Canada, The Honorable Stephen Harper.

Since Canada (Toronto) is the mining capital of the world, the delegation hosted an event to which members of the financial markets community were invited along with Egyptian mineral exploration and mining representatives. Further, members of the delegation had the chance to meet with related Canadian ministers and executives to expose the strong bond between the CSR, sustainable development, financial markets and mineral opportunities.



Meetings Held:

Meeting with the Canadian Minister of Development and Minister for La Francophone

The Egyptian delegation met with H.E. Christian Paradis, the Canadian Minister of Development and Minister for La Francophone on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum WEF - World Economic Forum - on the first day of PDAC 2014. Discussions focused on future plans for the Egyptian Mining Investors Association UF - Exercise of Egyptian youth to technology and research techniques of exploration and mining in cooperation with the Egyptian Chamber of petroleum and mining as well as the interest in efficiency and productivity of vocational training Authority.

Meeting with the Canadian Minister of International Trade

The Egyptian delegation also met with Ed Fast, Minister of International Trade where they discussed ways of re-implementation of the Canadian experience in the Latin American and West Africa in Egypt, through the transfer of Canadian expertise in planning, legislation and



implementation. It is worth noting that countries such as Peru and Chile have evolved steadily and became known as "countries of mining" This was evident in the growth of exports from the mining industry scoring the first rank with participated inputs of mining of nearly 20% of the GDP and it is obvious that West African States are currently going on same path.

For the second year in a row, Dr. Muhammad Zaher also met with the **Vice-President of the Republic of Peru-Ms. Marisol Espinoza** where they discussed the role of the mining sector as a key to activate the Egyptian agreements with the countries of South America, through the benefit of the Peruvian experience over the past twenty years.

Meeting with the Director General of the Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum

The Egyptian delegation met with Mr. Jean Vavrek, Director General of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum, to follow up on previous agreements regarding Egypt's governance improvement of its natural resources as well as promoting itself as a jurisdiction through expanding Egyptian presence at the global market to o draw the world attention to its rich geologic potentials.



The meeting focused on the Development of the overall environment of various exploration and prospection activities as well as the assistance in the formulation of the vision and policy for the mining sector in Egypt. Jean showed interest in visiting Egypt sometime during 2014 as per an extended invitation from the Canada Egypt Business Council and the Egyptian Council for Sustainable Development.

The delegation then met with **Mr. Patrick Chevalier, Director of Minerals, Metals and Materials Policy Branch in Natural Resources Canada** as well as Mr. Ben Chalmers, Vice President of the Sustainable Development in the Mining Association of Canada.



Egyptian Night in PDAC 2014



Part of the Egyptian delegation with H.E. Ambassador Wael Aboulmagd, ambassador of Egypt to Canada

H.E. Wael Aboulmagd, Egyptian Ambassador to Canada, participated in the Egyptian night organized by the Egyptian delegation headed by Dr. Muhammad Zaher Chairman of the Mining Committee of CEBC, and a group of experts in the field.

Ambassador Aboulmagd highlighted the most important political developments occurring in Egypt as well as the features of the coming period from establishing the system of democracy to highlighting the link between the democratic transition Egypt is experiencing now in addition to the economic and social developments. Ambassador Aboulmagd also discussed the importance of recognizing the vital role the mining sector can play in social, economic and political aspects of life.

Aboulmagd also presented some of the actions taken recently by the Egyptian government in terms of the development of the investment environment especially in the field of mining as well as the assistance offered to existing investors to overcome the challenges they face.



Delegation:

Mr. Affifi Ahmad Affifi (Iron Ores, Steel, Hard waste recycling and Coal)
Chairman of Regal Mining - Vice Head of the Delegation.

Dr. Wasfy Amin (Gold and precious metals Refinery)
Chairman of Christian D'oro - Chairman of the Jewellery Group in CCA

Ms. Aida Louiza (Gold and precious metals refinery)
Business Development Manager of Christian D'oro

Mr. George Elarga (Gold and precious metals refinery)
Metal Project Financing - Analysis - CPA Audit

Mr. Zeinhom ElAlfy (Gold exploration and mining)
General Director of Matz Holding

Mr. Hesham El-Shohary (Gold exploration and mining)
Operational Manager of Matz Holding

Mr. Sherif Hassan (Financial Advisor)
Chairman of Tangible Holding

Mr. Saeed Hasaneen (logistics)
Chairman of Cairo Freight Corporation

Mr. Muhammad Zakaria (logistics)
Purchase Manager Cairo Freight Corp.

Mr. Ahmad Abou Elmagd (Quarries - Marble and Granite)
PR Manager Kasb Group

Dr. Mosaad Hashem
Chairman of Wadico for Oil Shale

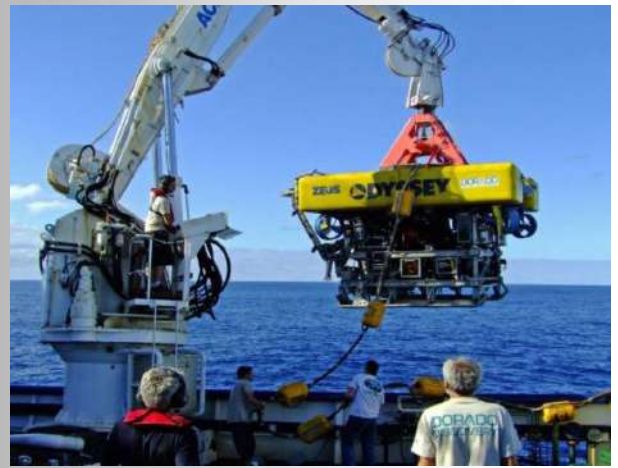
Geo. Omar Toema
Chairman of EMRA one week before travel

Dr. Zaher praised the support of the Egyptian embassy in Ottawa to the Egyptian delegation, providing all forms of support to ensure the success of the mission.

In one of the speeches Mr. Zaher commented "the exploration and mining industry is going through a lot of changes. We need innovation to thrive so that the Egyptian mining industry can prosper and be competitive".

Asking him about a meeting held with EMRA "I can feel the Government's strong intention to encourage this sector so as to contribute heavily to the national GDP as well as helping the mining industry to export a reliable accounted percentage of the Egyptian total. I was glad to know the Government's planning to elevate the value of the mineral production which has become a must as well as the mineral exploration and deposit appraisal expenditures which is now a very crucial matter".

The responsibility for successful engagement does not rest solely on the government. All key players have a role to play, from entrepreneurs, civil society, business leaders, accountable NGOs and media.





The successful business partnerships between the government and those parties require them both to come on table where there is a greater room for exploration of opportunities.

“The word “Resources” is the most important issue of our time and we need to get it right”,

commented Zaher, “anybody who refuses to get engaged in a "balanced" dialogue keeps the conversation from advancing to one where everyone can benefit from. We all need to design, promote, develop and publish a public mining development plan and transparency is the most important factor in sustainable economic growth”.

From his remarks, Zaher sees that the richest areas in mineral resources in Egypt host the poorest communities and that there is an urge to transfer this conflict into a better fact.

Exploration and mining bring significant development to the society helping in the infrastructure such as building roads, dams, power plants, agriculture spots, water wells and other important projects. It is a chance and one of the tools to fight poverty and elevate the level of the inhabitants in those areas.

“Mining is far beyond than just a matter of money generating; it is about responsibility as well. Egyptian Prime Minister, H.E. Eng. Mehleb, had highlighted many times the importance of the CSR- Corporate Social Responsibility, especially after January 25 and June 30 revolutions. Mining is all about CSR", commented Zaher.

Mr. Zaher also highlighted the role of the Egyptian mining investors association who strongly encourages and undertakes this ethical conduct and the way its corporate members interact with the society so as not only to meet but exceed expectations in that aspect.



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Savor Canada

Canada is a nation of woods and water, with a sparsely populated, vast wilderness and freshwater resources which are the envy of the world. There are over than 30,000 Canadian lakes, which are a source of great natural beauty, recreational opportunities and industrial growth.

Lake Abraham

It was built on the upper course of the North Saskatchewan River, in the foothills of the Canadian Rockies. It lines David Thompson Highway between Saskatchewan River Crossing and Nordegg.

Abraham Lake was created in 1972, with the construction of the Bighorn Dam. The Government of Alberta sponsored a contest to name the lake in February 1972, during the final stages of construction of the Bighorn dam. Students across the province were asked to submit names taking into consideration "historical significance, prominent persons, geography and topography, and the value of the lake. It was named for Silas Abraham, an inhabitant of the Saskatchewan River valley in the nineteenth century.



Although man-made, the lake has the blue color of other glacial lakes in the Rocky Mountains, which is caused by rock flour as in other glacial lakes.

The Cline River Heliport is located on the western shore of the lake.

Lake Louise

In Banff National Park in Canada , and southern Canadian Rocky Mountains and is one of the most beautiful natural lakes in the world. The lake is a popular destination for tourists around the world. It is 3 km along with distinctive tourist resorts.



Lake Maureen

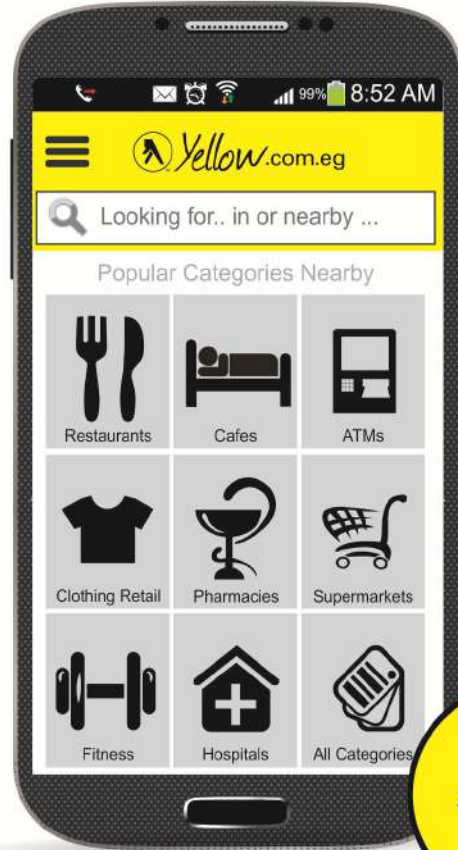
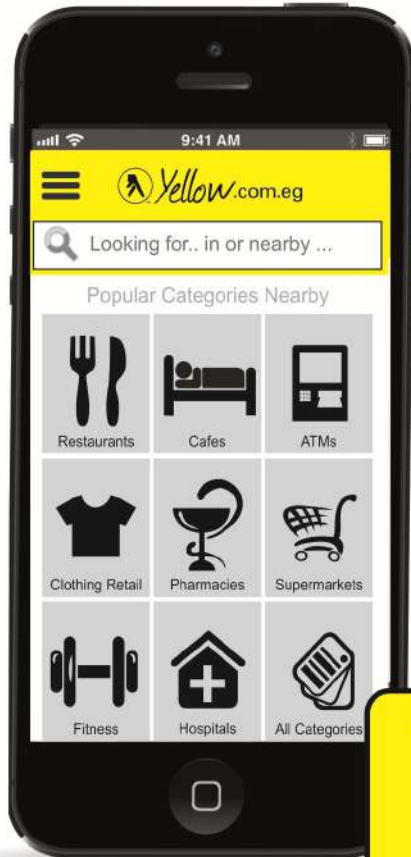
Is located in Banff National Park 14 kilometers away, it belongs to the region of Alberta, located in the valley of the peaks ten at an altitude of 1885 m where the area of the lake is estimated as half a square kilometer, it gets fed from the melting ice of the Rocky Mountain range.

The reason of the lake's light blue (cyan) color is the reflection of light on the rocks in the bottom of the lake.

If you want to visit lake Maureen, you must first travel to the village of Banff Banff which is one of the most beautiful villages in Canada located in the middle of nature.



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Arab Prospects beyond the Arab Spring



In one of the poems of the Egyptian poet Amal Donkol weeks before his death in 1983, he finished his recitation with the poignant “Do not dream of a happy world”; tears sparkled in the eyes of the elderly woman next to me. It was a fitting reflection on current conditions in the Arab world nearly three years after the start of what came to be known as the “Arab Spring.”



Two-thirds of the 330 million Arabs alive today are under 35 years old. But almost all Arab educational systems do not, in general, produce graduates who are competitive in the global job market. This means that the jobs that have any wealth-creation

potential are beyond their reach. The exclusion of a significant percentage of Arab women from the labor force exacerbates the problem.

For example, though the Gulf states have a very young native population, their economies are fueled mainly by the expatriates who constitute more than 30% of the region’s inhabitants (estimates vary widely). Meanwhile, the proportion of Arab Christians throughout the Middle East has dwindled from around 20% of the total population to about 5% over the last century. As a result, for the first time in at least two centuries, Arab societies are increasingly losing their cultural and intellectual diversity. If these

trends continue, the Arab world's demographic dividend will become a catastrophic burden.

Most Arab oil producers are major credit exporters to the West, and several Gulf states' sovereign wealth funds are among the most dynamic – and influential – actors in global capital markets. And yet the Arab world remains almost entirely dependent on oil exports, with even countries that have no reserves relying on fiscal support and remittances from the oil exporters.



As a result, though several Arab economies are growing at 3-5% per year, they are highly vulnerable to disruptive technologies (witness the shale-energy revolution) and economic shocks (for example, recessions in the main oil importers). And, crucially, dependence on oil means that the single source of Arab economic strength is a mature industry that is detached from those that will shape tomorrow's global economy: bio-engineering, robotics, computer science, molecular physics, and manipulation of "big data," to name a few.



Arab soft power is a mixed bag. The Qatari-based broadcaster Al Jazeera has managed to become a leading force in international media. Moroccan and Tunisian films regularly feature in international festivals. And Dubai is now a commercial and logistical hub, as well as a notable tourist destination.



But the Arab world's contribution to international literary, cinematic, theatrical, and musical production is highly disproportionate to its population. The region is also severely deficient in scientific and technological research. And the region's value system – its attitudes toward human rights, gender equality, and the role of religion in political and social life – is hardly a model for others to admire and emulate.

Moreover, the Arab world's internal and external relationships are increasingly complicated. The largest Arab countries – Egypt and Saudi Arabia – have strained relations with the region's largest immediate neighbors, Iran and Turkey. A permanent solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains elusive. Access to key water resources is fraught. Even the strategic relationship with the United States, which has anchored the largest Arab countries' foreign policy for decades, is confronting significant challenges, owing to the political tremors triggered by the Arab Spring, as well as to America's increasing focus on Asia.



Militarily, the Arab world lacks advanced capabilities in ballistic missiles, anti-satellite missiles, and cyber-warfare. This, together with a relatively low level of soft power, suggests that the Arab world's ability to convince, compel, or coerce external actors is severely limited.



Arab elites are also increasingly losing influence over their internal constituencies, with most Arab countries remaining acutely divided over politics, economics, and the role of religion. The resulting polarization has

weakened the few functioning state institutions that the large Arab countries have managed to build since the mid-nineteenth century.



Of course, pessimism in the short to medium term must be tempered by sensitivity to constantly changing political and social circumstances. But, while the Arab world is a huge region with real power and potential, it has been systematically weakened in the past half-century – mainly from within.

Indeed, the Arab uprisings of the past three years can be viewed as a youth-led rebellion against not only entrenched elites, but also against a social and political narrative that is no longer viable. A new start is urgently needed.

To be sure, the past three years have been full of disappointments. But, for today's young Arabs, there can be no restoration of faith in the old certainties and dogmas that have stifled social and political progress for decades. Millions of Arabs have opted out, with some of the brightest emigrating to the US and northern Europe, while some of the poorest risk their lives to cross the Mediterranean. Nonetheless, the transformative wave fueled by young people's frustration remains full of energy and potential.

If, however, the wave peters out and current conditions persist, Arab prospects will remain dismal for years to come. In that case, Arabs will understand that it really is wrong to dream of a better world – with perilous consequences for the region and its neighbors.

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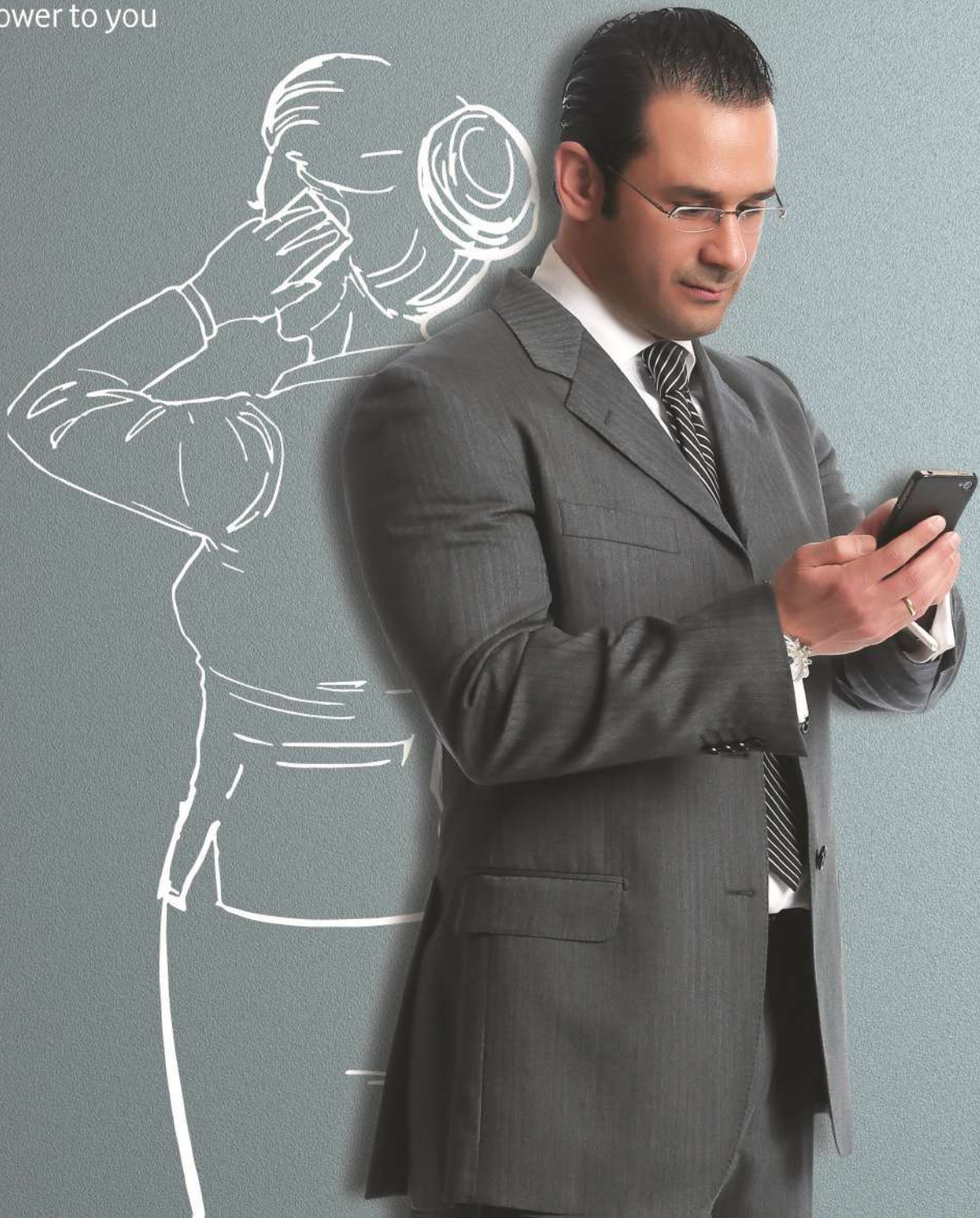


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Power to you



A photograph of a man with glasses and a grey t-shirt sitting on a bed, reading a magazine to a young girl with blonde hair. The girl is also sitting on the bed, looking at the magazine. The scene is lit by warm sunlight from a window in the background. A speech bubble containing the text 'Food for Thought' is positioned above the girl.

Food for Thought

A Beautiful Way to look at things...

A Father was reading a magazine when his little daughter every now and then distracted him. To keep her busy, he tore one page on which was printed the map of the world. He tore it into pieces and asked her to go to her room and put them together to make the map again.

He was sure she would take the whole day to get it done. But the little one came back within minutes with perfect map.....when he asked how she could do it so quickly, she said, “Oh.... Dad, there is a man’s face on the other side of the paper..... I made the face perfect to get the map right.”

MORAL OF THE STORY

There is always the other side to whatever you experience in this world. Whenever we come across a challenge or a puzzling situation, look at the other side....

You will be surprised to see an easy way to tackle the problem.

فرصة فريدة .. في قلب مصر الجديدة



٤ شارع ابن المتوج
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Egypt to lift Home Ownership Rates



With up to as many as 16m Egyptians estimated to lack adequate housing, the government in Egypt has taken steps to ease access to home loans for low-income groups, while at the same time looking at options for spurring private sector developers to build low-cost residential units.



In late December, the Egyptian Financial Supervisory Authority (EFSA) presented its recommended amendments to the Mortgage Finance Law of 2001 to the minister of investment, Osama Saleh. The EFSA regulates all non-banking financial activities, including mortgage finance companies.



According to a statement by the EFSA, the authority has proposed raising the limit on the mortgage-to-income ratio for low-income individuals, allowing more people to benefit from the state's Mortgage Finance Fund.

In January, the chairman of the EFSA, Sherif Sami, said developing the real estate sector was one of the authority's

primary objectives. The comment came in a statement following an announcement that the EFSA and the New Urban Communities Authority had signed an agreement to ensure the rights of mortgage finance companies.

According to local news reports, the proposed amendments to the Mortgage Finance Law are now under review by the cabinet.



An under-developed market

Although it remains far smaller than in OECD countries, Egypt has had some success in establishing a mortgage market over the past decade. According to a 2013 report from the World Bank, which helped the government set up the Egyptian Mortgage Refinance Company, the value of market-based home loans jumped from LE300m (\$42.8m) in 2006 to LE4.5bn (\$642.3m) in 2011, while the number of mortgage finance companies grew from two to 12 over the same period.



Despite this success, the market remains relatively under-developed. The value of outstanding mortgages is equivalent to less than 1% of GDP, compared to between 30% and 90% in most OECD countries. Egypt also falls behind regional peers like Turkey, which has a ratio of around 7%.



In an interview with OBG last year, Hassan Dorra, chairman of Dorra Group, a local developer, said, "The market is huge but people in the low-income segment cannot pay cash. The only way that social

housing can be made affordable is for the state to tackle the issues with mortgage finance.”

Providing more affordable homes

At the same time the government is looking to ease restrictions on mortgages, it is also stepping up its efforts to supply more low-cost housing. At the end of January, Ibrahim Mahlab, as the minister of housing, utilities and urban development, said the government expected to deliver some 50,000 units by mid-year and a further 90,000 over the following 14 months.

The homes will come as part of the state-funded construction program, but the minister said more needed to be done to encourage private investment, noting that improved access to real estate project financing is a priority and is being studied in cooperation with the central bank. “We are studying issues like facilitating loan conditions and changes in some of the procedures that can form challenges for investing in the sector,” Mahlab said.

Boosting private sector participation could help ease the shortage of low-income housing. While the government has had a social housing program in place for decades, it has had difficulties keeping pace with population growth in the country of 80m people. Estimates of the shortfall vary, ranging from 1m to 3m units, and would likely be higher, if inhabitants in informal or sub-par housing were quantifiable.





For the most part, private sector developers have focused on high-end mixed-use developments in suburban areas, on the outskirts of Cairo, which tend to offer better margins and more reliable returns.

The result has been an imbalance in Egypt's housing mix – a shortage at the affordable end of the scale and an over-supply of upper-market properties, many of which sit empty. According to official data issued in 2013, up to 30% of existing housing units were vacant or unused, although many of these are second and holiday properties. A 2013 study from the Egyptian Centre for Housing Rights estimated there were more than 6m units not in use, mostly in the greater Cairo area.

The shortage of affordable residential units has created a surge of illegal construction, with a February report from the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities saying that some 500,000 units have been built without government consent over the past three years.

Source: Oxford Business Group



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A Spotlight on News

Local Authorities collaborate with Maadi City Centre to improve Road Infrastructure



The Maadi City Centre mall, in collaboration with local authorities, is set to launch a new EGP 10m road-works project to decrease traffic along the Maadi ring-road, according to a statement from the authority. While the work will focus on roads leading to Maadi City Centre, “major improvements were also made on the Zahraa road”, including a u-turn lane for motorcycles. Improvements are also planned for the mall’s parking lot.

Abdullah Al Nokrashy, Majid Al Futtaim Properties country manager for Egypt, said that the development of the infrastructure in the area represents



part of the company’s “duty towards the community”. Al Nokrashy added that the renovation of the road is important for Maadi residents and mall visitors, as alleviating traffic congestion will improve the “driving experience” for everyone.

Al Futtaim Group is the sole franchise owner of Maadi City Centre, and has planned to invest in Egypt by setting up four commercial malls in Maadi, 6th of October City and Almaza in Alexandria. The projects would have an investment value of EGP 11.3bn and would provide 38,000 job opportunities, according a Ministry of Industry statement.

Foreign ministry announces official stance on GERD



Egypt is seeking to negotiate a “win-win” scenario with Ethiopia and Sudan over the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) that would protect the Ethiopia’s developmental needs, Sudan’s interests, and Egypt’s water security, according to a released Foreign Ministry document.

The document, outlining the foreign ministry’s official stance towards the dam, detailed the Egyptian narrative of the GERD negotiations and listed the arguments of the Egyptian side.

The Egyptian side said Ethiopia continuing the construction process at the dam site “violates all the well-known international legal principles regarding projects and/or constructions on international rivers”, adding that it has broken a number of international agreements.

Among the agreements mentioned in the document was the 1902 agreement between Ethiopia and the British Government, where the Ethiopian side vowed not to construct or allow the construction of any work across the Blue Nile, Lake Tana, or the Sobat, which would arrest the flow of their waters except in agreement with “His Britannic Majesty’s Government and the Government of Sudan”. According to the foreign ministry, the Ethiopian side also violated another agreement on the framework for cooperation with Egypt signed in 1993 where each party committed to “refrain from engaging in any activity related to the Nile waters that may cause appreciable harm to the interests of the other party.”

The document added that the Ethiopian side continues to build



the dam disregarding the recommendations of the International Panel of Experts (IPOE) final report, which called for further studies in water resource systems, hydropower models, and a trans-boundary environmental and socioeconomic impact assessment.

The IPOE was composed of two experts each from Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan, along with four international experts. In the panel's report the Ethiopian side did not share a number of documents, including the dam break analysis, cost benefit analysis, and others.

The report also mentioned that the present hydrological and reservoir simulation study shows detrimental impacts on Egypt's water demand and the Aswan High Dam's hydropower generation.

The Ethiopian Foreign Ministry had released a statement last Monday stressing that the

Ethiopian side finds mediation between Egypt and Ethiopia "unnecessary", adding that the Nile is a source of cooperation between Nile Basin countries, not a source of conflict.

Ethiopia said the talks in February "made no progress" because of a difference in opinion regarding the involvement of international experts. It said that while Egypt is pushing for the involvement of foreign experts, Sudan and Ethiopia do not see the need.

Tripartite talks between Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan have been held in November, December and January, but no agreement has been reached so far.

The construction plan of the 145 metre dam is set to be complete in 2017. The dam will have a storage capacity of 74 BCM, installing capacity of 6000 MW, and a total cost of \$4.78bn.

US Data Centre Firm in Venture with Egyptian Telecoms Tycoon



US-based data centre firm Switch SUPERNAP has set up a joint venture with specialist investment companies in Egyptian tycoon Naguib Sawiris' telecoms empire to win business in Europe, Asia and the Americas.

The joint venture with Accelero Capital and Orascom TMT Investments will build and operate data centers for clients such as cloud computing, internet and financial firms, its chief executive said on Wednesday. The Luxembourg-based company will target SUPERNAP's existing clients, which include Google and Ebay, CEO Khaled Bichara told Reuters.

Bichara, who is also CEO of Accelero Capital, said data transmission speed and regulatory issues may attract clients to locally built data centers.

"We're going to countries and we tell [potential clients] if you want to host your server and your data in such an environment you don't have to go all the way to the US," he said.

Operations outside the United States are expected to start next year and the privately held company is confident it has secured financing for ten large data centers, each around 230,000 square feet (21,370 square meters) in size, Bichara said.

Details of the first contracts in two countries would be announced within three months,

Luxembourg-based Orascom TMT Investments is a majority shareholder of Cairo-listed Orascom Telecom Media and Technology, which lists Sawiris as its executive chairman and Bichara as a non-executive board member.

Harper Government Improves Veterans' Access to Federal Public Service Jobs



The Honourable Julian Fantino, Minister of Veterans Affairs, joined Canadian Armed Forces personnel and Veterans at Denison Armoury, in Toronto, to announce new government measures that will help move Veterans to the front of the line when it comes to hiring qualified Canadians for federal public service jobs.

The consolidated *Veterans Hiring Act* builds on previous government commitments as well as new ones outlined in Economic Action Plan 2014 to help Veterans find meaningful employment after their time in uniform is complete. In recognition of their service to Canada, Canadian Armed Forces personnel and honourably released Veterans will be given more access to federal public service job opportunities. As outlined in Economic Action Plan 2014, the Government of Canada is proposing changes to the *Public Service Employment Act* to enhance employment opportunities in the federal public service for Veterans.

Qualified Veterans who have at least three years of military service will be given preference in advertised, external hiring processes for five years after the date of release. Additionally, Veterans and CAF personnel with at least three years of military service will be allowed to participate in advertised, internal hiring processes for a period expiring five years after their release date.

These new measures build on the Government of Canada's recent announcement that Veterans of the CAF who have medically released due to a service-related injury or illness will get the top level of priority consideration for job openings in the public service. This means eligible Veterans whose military service is cut short by a career-ending injury or illness suffered in the line of duty will be given statutory, priority access.

All proposed changes are expected to come into force in 2014-15.

Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement



This landmark agreement constitutes Canada's first free trade agreement in the Asia-Pacific region and will provide new access for Canadian businesses and workers to the world's 15th-largest economy and the fourth-largest in Asia. In fact, the Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement is projected to create thousands of jobs for hardworking Canadians by boosting Canada's economy by \$1.7 billion and increase Canadian exports to South Korea by 32 percent. South Korea is not only a major economic player in its own right and a key market for Canada; it also serves as a gateway for Canadian businesses and workers into the dynamic Asia-Pacific region as a whole.

Minister Aglukkaq marks the 20th anniversary of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)



Minister Aglukkaq, Chair of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), announced that Canada will host the 2014 CEC Council Session in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, on July 17, 2014.

Canada is pleased to chair the CEC as it celebrates its 20th anniversary and to host the first Council Session in Canada's North. Canada looks forward to welcoming senior environment officials from the United States and Mexico, members of the Joint Public Advisory Committee, and engaged North American citizens to participate in a productive Council Session that will celebrate trilateral achievements through the Commission's cooperative program and foster a dynamic discussion on the future of the CEC.

The CEC announced today the recipients of the 2013-2015 North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA) grant program, which supports activities to address environmental challenges at the community level. In total, 18 projects from across the three countries were selected to participate in the program. The four Canadian projects selected will receive a total of \$398,322 in funds and will focus on issues ranging from climate change, water quality management, and biodiversity conservation.

Working Together to Protect the Greater Sage-Grouse



Minister Aglukkaq has also announced a \$2.1 million contribution for the Calgary Zoo's new captive breeding and rearing program for the Greater Sage-Grouse. The Government of Canada is committed to protecting and preserving our rich biodiversity, as seen in the \$25 million/year investment for species at risk in Economic Action Plan 2012. This program is breaking new ground—this will be the first time that Sage-Grouse have been bred and raised in captivity in Canada.

This program is the next step in a series of actions the federal and provincial governments are taking to protect and bring back the Greater Sage-Grouse in Canada.

On December 4th, the federal government published an Emergency Order to protect the Greater Sage-Grouse across 1700 km² of crown lands in Alberta and Saskatchewan. On December 20th, the proposed Amended Recovery Strategy for Greater Sage-Grouse was published, which outlines the state of the species, provides information about the species and population objectives, and identifies new critical habitat.



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H.E. Engineer Atef Helmy, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, accompanied by Mr. Medhat Khalil, Raya Holding Chairman and CEO, and Mr. Hazem Metwaly, Etisalat Chief Operations Officer, inaugurated Etisalat Egypt's customer service center enabled by Raya Contact Center today in Maadi Contact Center Park.

The inauguration comes in line with the strategic partnership between Etisalat Egypt and Raya Contact Center.

This service expansion coincided with the inauguration of Raya Contact Center's new facility in the International Maadi Contact Center Park.

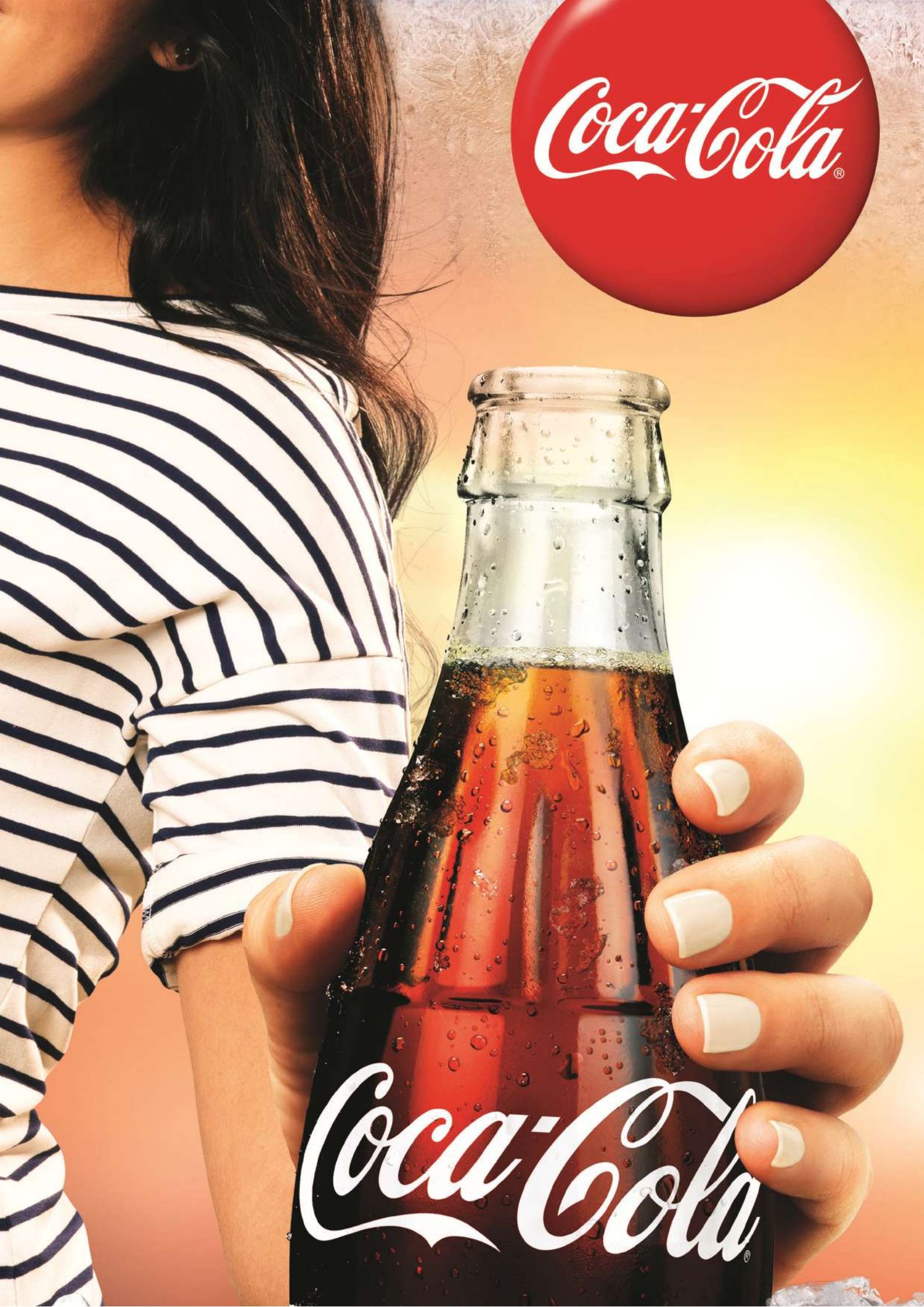




Raya owns the leading contact center in the Middle East with more than 4,000 seats that will be fully utilized by next year with an occupancy of 120%, creating 6,000 job opportunities, of which 5,000 are already employed.



On behalf of CEBC & ECSD members, we congratulate Raya Contact Center's team, wishing them all the best.



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CEBC Members Benefits

Services:

Egypt Air:

CEBC members (their spouses & children) are offered discounted tickets on all classes.

Members who wish to receive the **Egypt Air Plus Mileage Card** are welcome to contact Ms. Amira Talaat from CEBC.

Alitalia:

CEBC members are offered from 6% to 10% discounted rate on their tickets to Europe on economy Classes (Y, B, M, H, K, V, T & N) and from 10% to 15% for Business Classes (C, D & I).

Members who wish to receive the **Alitalia discounted tickets** are welcome to contact Ms. Martha Youakim at 0120 41 41 430 or 22418490.

Minart Furniture:

CEBC members are entitled to **15% discount** at “Minart” showroom for fine furniture.



Travellers:

CEBC members are now entitled to a **20% discount** offered by **Travellers Egypt** in the following hotels:

- ☐ Queen Beach Resort: Sharm El Sheikh
- ☐ Queen View Resort : Sharm El Sheikh
- ☐ Morgen Land Hotel : Saint Catherine

For any inquiries, kindly contact:

Ms. Hanan Abdo Mostafa

Tel: 02-27956856 / 02-27945724 (109)

Mob: 0122710002

Fax: 02-27962841 / 02-27964104

E-Mail: Travellersgroup@tedata.net.eg

Hanan_travellers@yahoo.com

Mobinil:

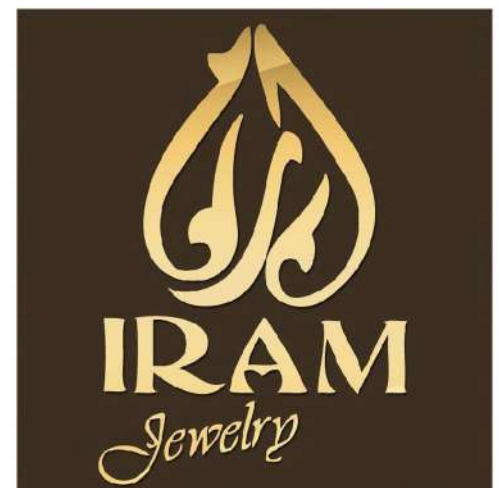
CEBC members are entitled to special offers from Mobinil on the following devices and buckets:

- ☐ Blackberries
- ☐ iphone
- ☐ ipad
- ☐ Samsung Galaxy Tab

Iram Jewelry:

CEBC members are entitled to a special **45% discount** on tag price amount.

The discount is neither valid in sales seasons nor on loose diamond stones.



TAKI VITA



**Kook's
& Bigg's**
Eat & Drink



Taki Vita:

CEBC members are entitled to **15% discount**

at "Taki Vita" showrooms and its agents all around Egypt.

Restaurants:

Cocoon Restaurant & Café:

Enjoy a special **Promotion** from
Cocoon Restaurant & Café.

Address: 49 Masr Helwan El Zera'ay St., Maadi

Rossini Restaurant:

Enjoy **15% discount** on all:
"A La Carte" menus and beverages in
"Rossini's Outlets, Restaurants".

Address: 66, Omar Ibn El-Khatab St., Heliopolis.

Casseruola, Kook's & Bigg's and Mozzarellina Restaurants:

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"A la carte" food & beverages and also
on total bill of Outside Catering.

*Address: Sun City Shopping Mall
5th Floor – Autostrad Road – Sheraton Bldgs – Heliopolis*

Hotels: CEBC is contracted for special room rates with the following hotels :

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GARDEN CITY CAIRO



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Fairmont
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CAIRO

Iberotel
Hotels & Resorts



Kempinski Nile
Hotel
GARDEN CITY CAIRO



Cairo

- ☐ Fairmont Heliopolis & Towers
- ☐ Kempinski Nile Hotel
- ☐ The Gabriel
- ☐ Safir Cairo hotel

El Gouna

- ☐ Arenna Inn
- ☐ Ali Pasha
- ☐ Captain's Inn
- ☐ Dawar El Omda
- ☐ Fanadir
- ☐ Mosaïque
- ☐ Turtle's Inn

Hurghada

- ☐ Kempinski Soma Bay

Nile Cruises

- ☐ Sonesta St. George Nile Cruise

Sharm El Sheikh

- ☐ Royal Savoy
- ☐ Savoy
- ☐ Sierra

Sokhna

- ☐ Movenpick Sokhna
- ☐ Jaz Little Venice

Taba

- ☐ Sonesta



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The Great Pyramids of Kaiser Prime
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Amira.talaat@canadaegypt.org

Website: www.canadaegypt.org

Members' Birthdates

Eng. Raouf Abdel Messih
Chairman and CEO
Technoram Holding
April 01

Mr. Maged El Menshawy
Chairman and CEO
Manapharma
April 03

Mr. Mohamed Taha
Vice President
Aero Technologies Quebec
April 04

Eng. Mohamed Saafan
Chairman & CEO
Egyptian Petrochemicals Holding
Co. (ECHEM)
April 05

Eng. Amr Aboualam
Chairman
Lotus Rea Management & Consulting
April 16

Ms. Lamise Negm
Vice President
Citibank N.A
April 24

Mr. Ashraf Elarman
General Manager
Xerox Egypt
April 24



Dr. Daa Elmonayeri
Chairman
Environmental Civil Engineering
Consulting Center
April 25

Eng. Mohamed Bahnas
Chairman
BIC for Contracting Construction
April 25

Eng. Ahmed Zaki
Architect Engineer
Private Electrical Consultants
April 26

Dr. Nabil Hilmy
Chairman
Hilmy Law Firm
April 28

Mr. Mohamed Younis
Managing Director
Delta Trading & Commercial
Agencies
April 30

Egyptian Council for Sustainable Development
Conseil Égyptien pour le Développement Durable
المجلس المصري للتنمية المستدامة

E.C.S.D



E.C.S.D

New Members

Alphabetized by company name

Eng. Hussein El Gueretly

Chief Executive Officer
Information Technology Industry
Development Agency (ITIDA)



Mr. Sayed Karam

Senior Partner
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