

Damir Al-Watan

Conscience of the Nation



Administrative Control Authority \ Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy (EACA)

Center for Research and Studies on Preventing and Combating Corruption (CRSPCC)

Issue No.3 December 2022



2023

**The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy EACA
congratulates the great Egyptian people
on the New Year.**

Conscience of the Nation

Damir Al-Watan

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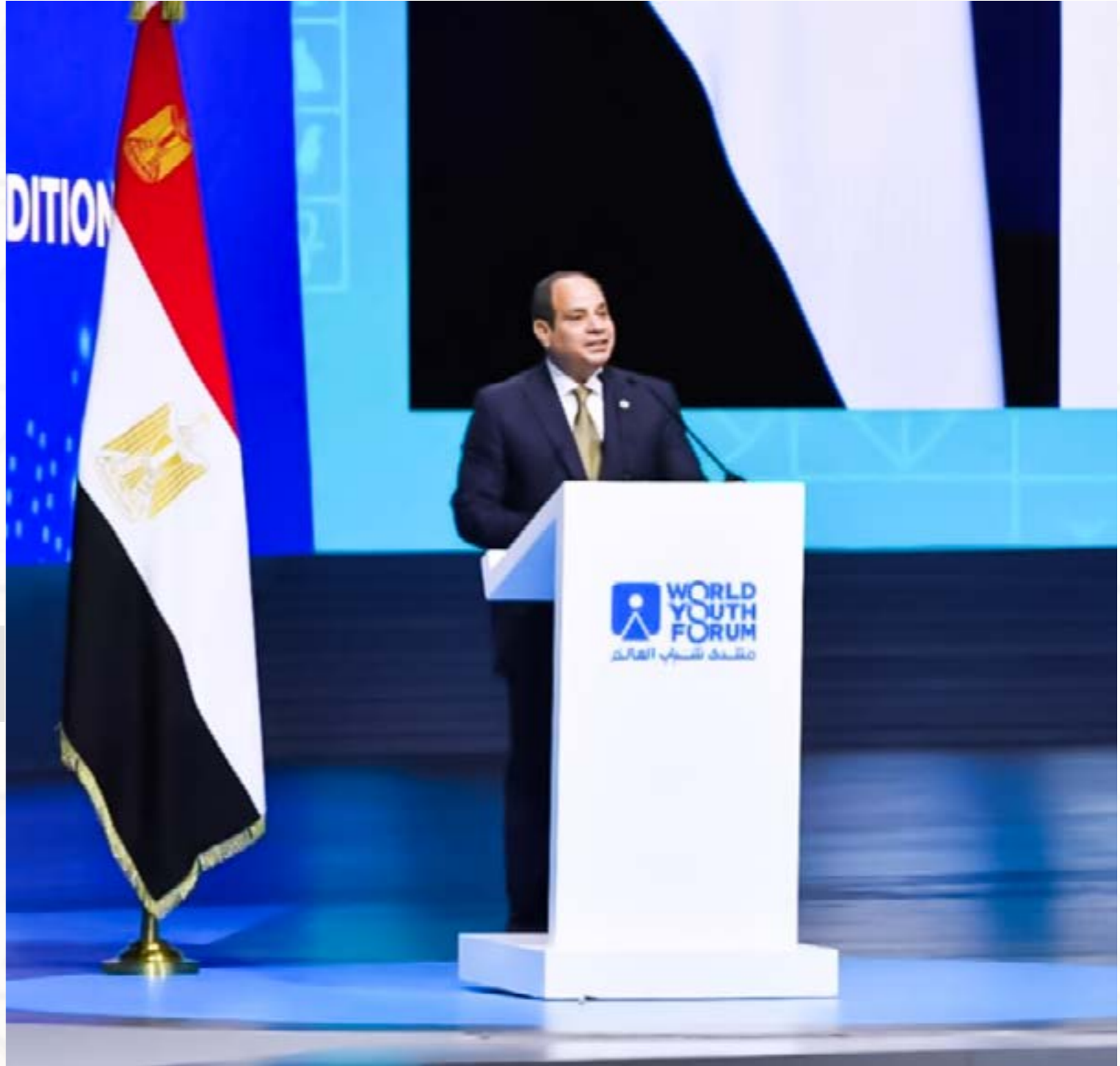
Mostafa Saeed



الإصدار الرقمي الإلكتروني
باللغة العربية

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**Corruption accompanies terrorism.
The Egyptian state orientation is to combat corruption
and give the opportunity to the honest and loyal people
to work for the benefit of this state
which can accept nothing but work.**

President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi
The World Youth Forum 2022



Administrative Control Authority Building in the New Capital City

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Issue No. 1 of the Conscience of the Nation Magazine is released as the first thematic cultural publication in the field of combating corruption and related sciences

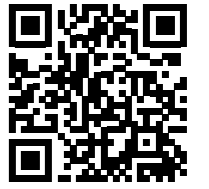


This is a documentary issue of the Conscience of the Nation Magazine on the Proceedings of the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Sharm El Sheikh (City of Peace) in December 13-17, 2021



Issue No. 2 of the Conscience of the Nation Magazine is released with a number of significant files, namely:

- National Strategy & Security and Crisis Management
- The Anti-Corruption Regulatory and Legal Framework
- Governance and the Use of Data & Information



Who is the Chairman of ACA?

Journey of Bestowal Continues

The Administrative Control Authority Celebrates Handing over the Authority's Chairmanship

Minister Amr Adel assumes chairmanship of the Administrative Control Authority after Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, the former Chairman



During the ceremony of handing over chairmanship of the Administrative Control Authority, Minister Amr Adel, current Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, and Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, former Chairman of the Authority, met in presence of the Authority's leaders and members, according to the traditions of handing over and assuming chairmanship of the Authority. In his speech, Major General Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed expressed his gratitude for the period of his chairmanship of the Authority, and for the efforts of its staff members who performed their duties with devotion and honesty to enhance Egypt's capabilities and preserve public money. In addition, he expressed his appreciation for the President's confidence for appointing him chairman of the Authority during the previous period, and for giving him the opportunity to continue his service

of our homeland in another position, by appointing him as advisor to the President. He also praised the President's vital role in supporting the Egyptian state institutions.

For his part, Minister Amr Adel, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, expressed his deep appreciation to President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi for entrusting him with chairmanship of the Administrative Control Authority. He also presented the shield of the Administrative Control Authority to Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, in appreciation of his various efforts during his chairmanship of the Authority, wishing him success in his new position, after issuance of the presidential decree appointing him as advisor to the President.

The ceremony was concluded with a commemorative photo with the Authority's leaders and staff members.



The Battle of Awareness in Fighting Corruption



Major General: Amr Adel
Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority

The history of the Egyptian state in fighting corruption and its causes extends for long decades in the modern era. This idea crystallized through the July 1952 Revolution. In fact, the sixties of the last century witnessed the establishment and reorganization of many agencies working in the field of combating corruption in all its financial and administrative forms through general and specialized control authorities. The Administrative Control Authority was established in 1964 under Law No. 54 and was granted absolute powers to fight the corruption crimes and prevent corrupt practices through studying and investigating the deficiencies in work and production, including detection of the financial systems defects that hamper orderly functioning of the public bodies as well as proposing the means of avoiding them.



A Brilliant Feat in the History of Egypt

The Egyptian people was on a date with starting a new distinct phase in the history of Egypt on 30 June 2013, which marked the beginning of a new era based on the principles of disclosure, challenge, work and sacrifice. These principles have been established and have grown during the era of President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi since the Egyptian people have chosen him and authorized him to root out the detestable terrorism and to raise the hope for a better future for our beloved country, Egypt.

The Egyptian state has implemented many strategies in various fields, following an objective scientific approach, based on the principles and objectives of upholding the anti-corruption values such as integrity, transparency as well as upholding the public interest value and combating discrimination. This characterized the state agencies approach in combating corrupt practices effectively to realize the deserved status of Egypt in the Arab region, in the African continent and in the international arena. This is even emphasized by the genius of Egypt's geography and deep-rooted history, as one of the oldest civilizations, which allow these integrated ambitious plans to achieve the sustainable development strategy "Egypt's Vision 2030".

Fighting Corruption is a Constitutional Duty

The anti-corruption goals have witnessed a tremendous development during that period, as the commitment to combat corruption has become an applicable constitutional stipulation, to the effect of developing and following up the National Anti-

Corruption Strategy. In fact, the Administrative Control Authority, for its part, participated with various agencies in developing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy in its two versions: 2014-2018 and 2019-2022-, and followed up the implementation of its various objectives. After the first version of the strategy had achieved outstanding success, the launch of the second version faced many challenges, the most prominent of which was the difficulty of measuring progress and achievement through comparing the planned goals with targets. These efforts culminated through the periodic follow-up by His Excellency President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi, who gave directions for publishing the results of the second year, with an implementation rate of 60.59%, which enhanced the values of disclosure and availability. Its results were published on the Authority's website and through various media and were distributed directly to various segments of citizens, during the Authority's participation in the 53rd session of the Cairo International Book Fair held in 2022.

International Cooperation in Fighting Corruption

International cooperation in fighting corruption is of particular importance because the Egyptian state is not isolated from the world during such battle, given the fact that corruption causes various countries to sustain billions of dollars of losses due to absence of the transparency and integrity values. This also affects the creation of opportunities for economic entities and local and foreign investors and leads to lack of justice in providing services to citizens, with the inevitable result in such cases being



achieving low levels of development.

Therefore, the Administrative Control Authority enhanced its own ability to communicate internationally with various countries and specialized international and regional bodies within its vital environment to establish constructive cooperation in this field. It organized the activities of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in its ninth session (COSP9), held in Sharm El-Sheikh during December 2021. More than 150 states participated in that session, which lasted for five days, through physical or virtual attendance, using the electronic means of communication. Moreover, five presidents participated in the session and gave their speeches, using the remote communication technology, in addition to the relevant ministers and chairpersons of anti-corruption bodies, organizations and associations and various international experts. The efforts of the Authority were crowned on the Egyptian side, with chairing the current session of the Conference for the next two years and issuing the "Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery".

In addition, Egypt was elected to assume presidency of the Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities in June 2022 in Burundi, in addition to many other international and regional participations and activities.

The Battle of Awareness for Fighting Corruption

In fact, the law enforcement agencies, with support of the state supervisory authorities and with participation of the various administrative bodies, seek to combat the manifestations of

The anti-corruption goals have witnessed a tremendous development during that period, as the commitment to combat corruption has become an applicable constitutional stipulation, to the effect of developing and following up the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. In fact, the Administrative Control Authority participated with various agencies in developing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy

corruption directly and effectively. In addition, the real and effective battle lies in combating and preventing corruption, which can be achieved through raising public awareness of the corruption dangers and promoting the societal culture of fighting corruption. The role envisioned by the Authority has emerged through the development and implementation of many of the strategy objectives, as well as the continuous efforts made by the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy through holding training courses, seminars and events. Those efforts include continuous communication with different groups of citizens such as the youth, women, the differently abled, the state employees from all authorities and representatives of the private sector and civil sector. They also include its primary role in developing the capabilities of the Authority's members and employees, and the members of the various law enforcement agencies.

Launching the Third Anti-Corruption Strategy 2023-2030

Based on the firm belief and determination of the Egyptian state to fight corruption in all its forms, in addition to its clear vision to prevent the risks of corruption from hampering the development efforts, the Administrative Control Authority has developed the National Anti-Corruption Strategy over the course of eight years. As previously indicated, the strategy development came in cooperation with law enforcement agencies, ministries, governorates and universities, along with the private sector and civil society as active members of the National Coordinating Subcommittee for the Prevention and Combating of Corruption. All these parties played their roles to launch and implement the strategy's first and second phases, with the second version of the strategy's implementation having been completed in 2022, with a rate of 86% and a detailed report is to be published to explain the implementation results and achieve transparency. The third phase of the strategy (2023-2030-) was launched with the President's support and sponsorship to coincide with the end of the country's long-term strategic plan through achieving "Egypt's Vision 2030".

In conclusion,

we promise you to continue the process of giving for the sake of our beloved homeland and great people.



Six Principles and Five Objectives of the Third Version of the National Strategy Fighting Corruption in Times of Emergency and Crisis

**Undersecretary/ Dr Mohamed Salama
Editor-in-Chief**

During one of the workshops held with participation of the teaching staff members and experts in the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy (EACA), the discussions addressed the exceptional measures taken to continue the training process at the Academy in light of the corona pandemic, and whether this process will be resumed during the coming period. The discussions ensued to answer a number of questions on whether the anti-corruption measures are affected by the exceptional circumstances and the implementation activities related to the Egyptian state strategies. Other questions were raised on the results of achieving the desired development goals in many areas during that period, as compared to the pre-corona period, regarding the strategies development and implementation method under the supposedly "normal" conditions. Are those strategies implemented in stable political, economic and social atmospheres?

The New Normal

The answer was surprising, yet revealing most of the truth. The strategies development and implementation should assume that the surrounding atmospheres are exceptional and suffused with conditions of crises and emergency. This is not a pessimistic, miserable or defeatist view; rather, it is a realistic concrete one. Therefore, the goals and mechanisms for implementing strategies must be set according to what is known as the "new normal". This was manifested through dealing with the corona pandemic surrounding conditions, through the health and preventive measures taken to address the crisis and its impact on the various political, economic and social aspects in all countries. This extended to all life aspects, personal life and the living conditions of various segments within societies, let alone the Russian-Ukrainian crisis and its political and economic repercussions, which affected most world countries directly and indirectly. Therefore, the idea of developing different scenarios to address crises while implementing the mechanisms, aiming to achieve the strategic goals is not an exceptional matter conditional to the crises occurrence, but an existential, contemporary and tangible matter.

Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration

Egypt is a party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. In this context, Egypt hosted the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to United Nations Convention against Corruption held in December 2021 in Sharm El-Sheikh and assumed presidency of that session. Along with 12 other countries, Egypt adopted what is known as the Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on "strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery". The Declaration was based on the serious concerns and risks posed by corruption to the societies stability, security and sustainable development, as well as the importance of joint commitment to work effectively for addressing challenges and implementing some measures for preventing corruption and strengthening international cooperation through several measures, including:

- Preventing illegal financial flows as well as recovering and returning stolen assets for implementing the Convention terms, achieving effective resource mobilization and sustainable development and for eradicating poverty.
- The importance of facing international challenges and obstacles, such as the measures impeding international cooperation and

contravening the UN Charter and international law, because international cooperation is an integral part of the measures of crises recovery.

- Responding to global emergencies and crises, including the situation arising from the corona pandemic and its health, social and economic effects on the rule of law and the emergence of discrimination. This is reflected in the implementation of measures to implement goal no. 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals related to encouraging the establishment of peaceful, marginalization-free societies to make the best development efforts.

- Supporting relief efforts at the economic and health levels to limit the scope of corruption spread and avoid hampering the efforts of emergencies and crisis response and recovery.

- Forbidding public officials from exploiting their positions, powers or the information accessed by them by virtue of their positions in profiteering through the purchase of medicines or supplies specified for facing emergency conditions, in the cases of allocation, distribution or management thereof, with the obligation to disclose any potential conflict of interests.

The Egyptian efforts continued in this field during the participation of the Administrative Control Authority Chairman, President of



Workshop on Fighting Corruption during Times of Emergency and Crisis

Therefore, the idea of developing different scenarios to address crises while implementing the mechanisms, aiming to achieve the strategic goals is not an exceptional matter conditional to the crises occurrence, but an existential, contemporary and tangible matter



Opening Session of the Governmental Experts Workshops

The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy hosted an international meeting for governmental experts December 2022 at its 13-during the period 12 headquarters in the presence of Minister Amr Adel, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority and Ms. Brigitte Strobel-Shaw, Chief of the UNODC Corruption and Economic Crime Branch. The meeting was attended by representatives from 30 countries in addition to many international organizations, international experts

the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and the Egyptian delegation in the meetings of the Convention workgroups during the period 711- November in Vienna. The Convention workgroups are concerned with asset recovery, enhancing international cooperation and reviewing the convention implementation. They also discussed the mechanisms for enhancing international cooperation and exchanging the information, the gained experiences as well as the Convention implementation efforts and the successful practices. In addition, their discussions covered the challenges to implementing Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery. The sessions included a review by the Administrative Control Authority of the importance of Egypt's adoption of Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration. Delegations from the United States, Australia, Brazil, Italy, Romania, the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development participated in reviewing Egypt's efforts for implementing Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration. The closing session was concluded with adoption of the reports of the various workgroups.

Holding the international meeting of governmental experts at the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy

The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy hosted an international meeting for governmental experts during the period 1213-December 2022 at its headquarters in the presence of Minister Amr Adel, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority and Ms. Brigitte Strobel-Shaw, Chief of the UNODC Corruption and Economic Crime Branch. The meeting was attended by representatives from 30 countries in addition to many international organizations, international experts and the Academy's leaders and teaching staff members. It was held based on the invitation of the ninth session of the Conference to hold an open meeting for governmental experts to participate in the promotion of international cooperation, with support of the UNODC through collecting and analyzing the information provided by the states parties on the best practices and challenges regarding international cooperation. The meeting was

concluded with the preparation of a preliminary document based on the experts' reports made during the side sessions, comprising five parts covering general observations, identifying legal and institutional constraints and overcoming them as well as measuring effectiveness of the local cooperation framework in facing the times of emergency and crises recovery. They also addressed international cooperation as a tool for combating corruption in times of crisis and the mechanisms for discussing the risks of corruption posed to international and multilateral financial relief.

Launching the third phase of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 20232030-

The Administrative Control Authority responded to the celebration of the International Anti-Corruption Day by holding an event to launch the third phase of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 20232030- under auspices of the President and in presence of the Prime Minister and a number of senior state officials. A seminar was held with participation of a number of leaders and specialists in the judicial and executive authorities, who reviewed the five main goals of the Strategy.

The approach to preparing the Strategy and its orientations based its preparation on four preparatory stages, related to evaluation, analysis, formulation and launch.

The National Anti-Corruption Strategy 20232030- was based on six main principles: integrity, transparency, participation, rule of law, equality and accountability.

Six goals were set for the third stage of the strategy, namely:

- A competent effective administrative body that provides distinguished services to the citizens and the investors;
- A legislative and judicial structure that supports the fight against corruption and achieves prompt justice;
- Some state bodies capable of combating corruption and enforcing the law;
- A society that is aware of the dangers of corruption and is able to combat it; and
- Effective international and regional cooperation in combating corruption.

In the same context of the essential educational and awareness role formulated and supported by the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, the training agency of the Administrative Control Authority, a number of events and celebrations were held in 16 governorates in cooperation with the governors, university presidents, teaching staff members and students. The students presented their activities in support of combating corruption, which expressed our unity in the fight against corruption.

Final Statement

In midst of wars, crises and emergencies, remember that Egypt has the oldest, most deep-rooted civilization in history. Egypt has always been such a great country with support of your willpower and for your benefit.



The Egyptian Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Combating Unit (EMLCU)

Reading Egypt's Strategy for Confronting the Most Dangerous Crime Worldwide



Judge Ahmed Said Khalil
Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Egyptian Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Combating Unit (EMLCU)

In recent decades, combating money laundering and terrorist financing have attracted a growing interest. In fact, they constitute one of the most serious international crimes because of their negative effects on the economic, social and political levels and their strong correlation with other horrible crimes, such as drug trafficking, corruption, human trafficking, migrant smuggling and other crimes, which are considered predicate crimes of money laundering. In addition, such crimes are usually committed for providing the financing necessary for performing terrorist acts. International conventions affirmed the necessity of combating money laundering, including the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption.



The United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Article 3, pointed out the significance of taking the necessary measures to criminalize hiding or camouflaging the reality, source, place, misappropriation, movement or rights related to such funds. Furthermore, it should be considered that such money is derived from a crime/crimes stipulated in the convention or derived from involvement in the crime/crimes related to them.

Moreover, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, Articles 6 and 7, indicated the urgency to criminalize laundering the proceeds of crime and to take the necessary measures to combat money laundering. Likewise, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Articles 23 and 58, indicated the significance of criminalizing laundering the proceeds of the crimes stated in the Convention. It also stressed the importance of establishing a financial intelligence unit responsible for receiving the reports related to suspicious financial transactions for analyzing and circulating them to the competent authorities.

On the other hand, the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council's resolutions stress the seriousness of terrorist financing operations and urge all countries to take the necessary

measures to combat them, as confirmed by the United Nations International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

We cannot discuss combating money laundering and terrorist financing without referring to the international standards issued in this regard, particularly the standards issued by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which is an intergovernmental body founded in

Since its foundation, the Unit has sought to perform its entrusted roles efficiently and effectively in accordance with the conventions of combating money laundering and terrorist financing and the international standards issued in this regard. The Unit is also keen to develop a common understanding regarding the money laundering and terrorist financing risks and to participate with all national organizations in combating the monitored risks through conducting a national evaluation of the related risks and developing the National Strategy for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing.

The Unit contributed to preparation of the drafts of many laws and their amendments, particularly the laws on combating money laundering and terrorist financing, regulating the lists of terrorist entities and regulating the central bank and banking system. In addition, the Unit has taken due measures for the benefit of clients working in all banking and non-banking financial institutions, whether individually or in partnership with competent national authorities.

1989 by the ministers of its member states. Its main objective is to set the standards of combating money laundering and terrorist financing as well as to promote effective implementation of the legislative, regulatory and operational measures related to such crimes. It also seeks to face other relevant threats to maintain the international financial system integrity. Therefore, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is "a policy-making body" that works on developing the political will necessary for implementing the legislative and regulatory reforms in these fields.

The FATF international standards are represented in 40 recommendations, covering all aspects related to combating money laundering, terrorist financing and the mass destruction weapons proliferation financing. This includes identifying the money laundering and terrorist financing risks threatening the different countries to develop a common understanding regarding such risks. This can be achieved through coordination and collaboration at the local level as well as by taking all the necessary measures to face them, including developing and enacting legislative policies, strategies, frameworks and regulatory procedures and controls within the framework of cooperating with relevant counterparts in other countries. Thus, creating a combating effective system requires local coordination, on one hand and international collaboration on the other hand.

In this context, the Egyptian Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Combating Unit (EMLCU) was established pursuant to Article 3 of the Anti-Money Laundering Law no. 80 of 2002 and its amendments. The Unit's primary role is represented in receiving notifications and information from the financial sector regarding any transactions, which are suspected to constitute proceeds of money laundering or terrorist financing, or any attempts to make such transactions. In addition, it analyzes such notifications and sends the analysis results to the law enforcement entities and the relevant investigating authorities. Since its foundation, the Unit has sought to perform its entrusted roles efficiently and effectively in accordance with the conventions of combating money laundering and terrorist financing and the international standards issued in this regard.

The Unit is also keen to develop a common understanding regarding the money laundering and terrorist financing risks and to participate with all national organizations in combating the monitored risks through conducting a national evaluation of the related risks and developing the National Strategy for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing. The national evaluation of risks was conducted to recognize the most common money laundering forms and terrorist financing sources in addition to the most commonly exploited sectors for committing such crimes. For achieving this purpose, the operation team was formed for



conducting the national evaluation of risks, establishing the money laundering and terrorist financing two databases as well as analyzing the relevant data and information for producing output about the most commonly exploited sources and sectors, with the evaluation results being shared and circulated.

Regarding the National Strategy for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, the Unit has developed an inclusive strategy, comprising major goals and particular operational procedures under each goal, in coordination with national entities and through benefiting from the results of the national evaluation of risks. Both the public and private sectors cooperate with the civil society to implement the strategy. Moreover, the Unit contributed to preparation of the drafts of many laws and their amendments, for achieving compliance with the national standards of combating money laundering, terrorist financing and monetization. The most notable laws include the Anti-Money Laundering Law promulgated by Law No. 80 of 2002, the Executive Regulations of the Anti-Money Laundering Law promulgated by the Prime Minister's Decision No. 951 of 2003. More laws include the Anti-Terrorism Law promulgated by Law No. 94 of 2015, the Law Regulating the Lists of Terrorist Entities and Terrorists promulgated by Law No. 8 of 2015, and the Central Bank and Banking System Law promulgated by Law No. 194 of 2020. In addition, the Unit has taken due measures for the benefit of clients working in all banking and non-banking financial institutions and businesses and non-financial professions, whether individually or in partnership with competent national authorities. It also amended the executive regulations for business registration regarding the actual beneficiary in addition to modification of the supervisory controls issued by the supervisory authorities regarding the financial institutions, the free professions and non-financial businesses.

Moreover, the Unit is concerned about building the business capabilities regarding the field of combating money laundering and terrorist financing and pays a special attention to building the capabilities of financial entities, free professions and non-financial businesses. Thus, these entities are considered the first defense line in the combating process through providing training programs, workshops and guidebooks. It also raises public awareness about the money laundering and terrorist financing crimes through printed materials, short videos, info graphics and other awareness-raising materials, which are published on its website.

It should be noted that all such efforts are exerted within the

The Unit is keen to develop a common understanding regarding the money laundering and terrorist financing risks and to participate with all national organizations in combating the monitored risks through conducting a national evaluation of the related risks and developing the National Strategy for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing.

framework of coordination and cooperation at the national level. In fact, the Unit holds the chairmanship or membership of several national committees related to combating money laundering, terrorist financing and the relevant predicate crimes. They include the National Coordinating Committee for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, the Supervisory Authorities for Non-Financial Professions and Businesses Committee in the field of combating money laundering and terrorist financing and the National Council for Payments. More committees include the National Coordinating Committee and the Coordinating Subcommittee for the Prevention and Combating of Corruption, and the National Coordinating Committee for Combating and Preventing Illegal Immigration and Human Trafficking. Moreover, the Unit concludes cooperation protocols with various national authorities.

In terms of regional cooperation, the Arab Republic of Egypt is a member of the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF), the regional body for combating money laundering and terrorist financing. The MENAFATF adopts the same work method of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the Unit participates in many of the projects implemented by FATF. Such projects cover the areas of laundering the proceeds of the human trafficking and migrant smuggling crimes, money laundering through the real estate sector, terrorism financing through the social media, money laundering through electronic means and the money laundering related to corruption. In addition, Egypt chaired the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF) during the period 2021-2022, which enabled it to cooperate closely with all parties related to combating money laundering and terrorist financing in the region. At the international cooperation level, since the Unit has joined the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units, as an active member, cooperation has been established through the Group extensively to exchange the information related to money laundering and terrorism financing crimes and the associated predicate crimes through the Egmont



The Unit holds the chairmanship or membership of several national committees related to combating money laundering, terrorist financing and the relevant predicate crimes, such as the National Coordinating Committee for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing and the National Coordinating Committee for Combating and Preventing Illegal Immigration and Human Trafficking



Secure Website for information exchange, upon request or automatically. In addition, the Unit plays an essential role in helping the financial intelligence units in the Arab and African countries to join the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units. Egypt also occupies the position of Head of the Training and Technical Assistance Group at the Egmont Group, which enables it to acquire and refine experiences and communicate with the relevant active parties worldwide.

It is worth noting that the Unit has always sought to conclude memorandums of understanding with counterpart units and other concerned parties in the various world countries to enhance the

The year 2021 was a landmark in the history of the anti-money laundering and terrorist financing system in the Arab Republic of Egypt. During this year, the MENA Financial Action Task Force evaluated the systems of combating money laundering and terrorist financing in Egypt, within the framework of implementing the commitments of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the international standards and agreements applied in the field of combating money laundering, terrorist financing and the weapon proliferation financing.



effectiveness of combating money laundering, terrorist financing and the weapons proliferation financing at the strategic and operational levels as well as at the awareness-raising and capacity-building levels.

As a member of the National Coordinating Committee and the Coordinating Sub-Committee for the Prevention and Combating of Corruption, one of the state's bodies for combating corruption, and within the framework of the Unit's keenness to combat corruption as a predicate crime of money laundering, the Unit participates in setting and activating the objectives of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy. It also participates in the relevant regional and international events and conferences, the latest of which is the 4th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Arab Convention against Corruption held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the period 2223- March 2022. The representatives of the Unit were among the members of the Egyptian delegation participating together with 14 Arab countries and a number of international and regional organizations and international experts. It also participated in the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Sharm El-Sheikh, the Arab Republic of Egypt during the period 1317- December 2021. During that session, the Unit organized a special event entitled "The Role of Financial Intelligence Units in Combating Illegal Financial Flows" and many of the national and foreign bodies, which participated in the session participated in that event as well.

The unit has also joined the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE), for communicating with the anti-corruption authorities worldwide for achieving faster and more efficient prosecution of corrupt practices and networks.

The year 2021 was a landmark in the history of the anti-money laundering and terrorist financing system in the Arab Republic of Egypt. During this year, the MENA Financial Action Task Force evaluated the systems of combating money laundering and terrorist financing in Egypt, within the framework of implementing the commitments of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the international standards and agreements applied in the field of combating money laundering, terrorist financing and the weapon proliferation financing. The evaluation process was conducted according to the commitment assessment methodology issued by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). It was concluded with the issuance of a detailed report that was approved during the thirty-second meeting of the MENAFATF, held on 7 June 2021, and attended by the member states and observers from some countries and international organizations. The report praised the efforts made by the Egyptian national authorities in combating the crime of financing terrorism in terms of technical commitment to the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force and effectiveness of the systems in place to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.



Prime Minister's Meeting for Discussion of the State Ownership Document

The Egyptian President's call for national dialogue and assigning the government to organize the economic conference held recently, during which the state ownership document was discussed, are good signs of optimism regarding a more efficient role of the state in the future.



In fact, reviewing the experiences of East Asian countries that have adopted the state development model provides a number of useful lessons in this regard. Effective interference of the state in economic life, as is the case in many developing countries, does not necessarily mean the spread of profit and income generating activities.

Role of the State and Conscience of the Nation



Prof/ Ashraf El-Araby
 President of the National Planning Institute
 Former Minister of Planning
 Follow-up and Administrative Reform

In all historical experiences, the state played a prominent role in economic life in particular and in the total development process in general. That role was not in the void. Rather, it was an integral part of the development philosophy and economic school, to which the decision makers belonged in the different countries and historical eras. At the theoretical level, we can distinguish between three basic schools of thought when determining the role of the state in the economic life: the Neoclassical School, the Self-Dependence or Independent Development School and the Organizational or State Development School. The first school is based on the idea of "invisible hands" introduced by Adam Smith, which depends on the free market mechanisms in achieving immediate balance in all markets, the balance that maximizes the profits of producers and the benefits of consumers, hence the welfare of the whole society in general. The supporters of the Neoclassical School or its contemporary formula known as the "Washington Consensus" policies believe that the state should limit its role in the economic activity and should focus on improving the market efficiency in achieving the society's goals through the different incentive systems.

In contrast to the first school, supporters of the Independent Development School based on the pillars of the leftist thought and the self-dependence principles believe that the market alone does not achieve development and that even when the market powers are allowed to work side-by-side with planning and government interference, development is not achieved through the free markets mechanisms. It is rather achieved

through orientation of the market and controlling its tracks by the state, in the light of specific plans for developing certain industries having relative advantages. This can be attained through using significant packages of investment, commercial and industrial policies particularly customs protection, support for emerging industries and exports and the policies for building national scientific and technological capabilities. However, the

third school known as the Organizational or State Development School intersects with the other two schools in many of their principles, occupying an intermediate position. It is based on more realistic hypotheses and it avoids, falling in the trap of adopting situations based on ideological prejudices to a far extent. It also uses a pragmatic selective approach combining the other two models, such as motivating organizational tools, which form together a consistent formula of the state interference.

In the context of developing countries, the state interference in the opinion of the supporters of this school should be a smart one and should not be limited to eliminating the market deformities/failure or ensuring a competitive environment (static efficiency), but should rather include enhancing creativity and change (dynamic efficiency) through its educational, scientific and industrial policies. If the state does not interfere to launch the process of coping up with others, achieving organizational change and changing the inherent relative advantages, those developing countries will be exposed to the risks of stagnation (static equilibrium solution) at a very low level of development and variation.

In his book Asian Drama published in 1968, Myrdal distinguished between two types of state, the soft state and the hard state. While the first state does not interfere much in the economic life of the arc of South Asian countries, the second plays a major role in implementing the economic goals of the arc of East Asian countries. In addition, analysts usually distinguish between the

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normative role and the positive role of the state.

While the first defines the role that the state must play to maximize welfare in the society, the second determines what the state actually does. There is often a great discrepancy between the two roles, and this highlights the importance of reform policies that can bring them closer to each other. Previous experiences indicate that countries that desperately need the strong role of the state and the public sector may be the ones, in which this sector is unable to play this role with the required efficiency. The inevitable result is that expanding the role of the state and increasing its influence in the economic life in those countries lead to harming the economic activity, minimizing social welfare and adding the state failure to the market failure. The reality confirms that reforming the current role of the state to bring it closer to the normative role, which it is supposed to play, is not an easy task. The role of the state in a given period is largely determined by its role in previous periods, which constitutes a severe constraint on any efforts to reform this role and the policies associated with it. Those policies often have long-term consequences, and result in many legal, political and administrative obstacles to changing those policies.

This gives rise to the contradiction between the executives' awareness of the need to adopt specific reforms and their inability to carry out those reforms in many cases. In addition, many groups and segments in the society and even within the administrative apparatus of the state itself, who benefited from those wrong policies in the past, strongly resist any reforms against their interests, which makes matters more complicated.

In fact, reviewing the experiences of East Asian countries that have adopted the state development model provides a number of useful lessons in this regard. Effective interference of the state in economic life, as is the case in many developing countries, does not necessarily mean the spread of profit and income generating activities. Undoubtedly, the Egyptian President's call for national dialogue and assigning the government to organize the economic conference held recently, during which the state ownership document was discussed, are good signs of optimism regarding a more efficient role of the state in the future. Here, I remember the statement of French Poet Paul Valery: "If the state is strong, it crushes us. If it is weak, we perish." Therefore, the ideal role of the state may fall midway between these two extremes.



Egyptian Law and Protection of the People's Money and Property

First Undersecretary: Hesham Hussein
 Head of the Legal Sector in the Administrative Control Authority

Whoever reviews legislation in the Egyptian state can recognize the extent of the state's power and deep-rooted legal concepts, the most important of which is the concept of public money and property, seen as the support for all citizens and the means of providing public services to them. This appears clearly in the Egyptian constitution conclusions reached over the course of many years, through dividing ownership into three types: public property, private property and cooperative property. Both private and cooperative property always have an apparent owner who manages, protects and takes care of them, while public money and property always need a constitutional and legal will to protect them, and even a political will and popular awareness to preserve them.

The Egyptian successive constitutions contain explicit provisions on the obligation to respect and protect public money and property. The constitutions of 1964 and 1971 establish that public money and property are inviolable because they are the property of people and the support of the nation's strength, so their protection is obligatory for all citizens. The current constitution developed in 2014 has brought provisions that obligate the state to protect public money and property with expressive stipulations on the impermissibility of disposing of them.

According to the legislative hierarchy, the law set executive rules for defining, regulating and protecting public money and property. The depth of the Egyptian state appears clearly in its legal history, as the civil law issued on 101883/18/ stipulated that the public money and property allocated for public benefit were not to be expropriated or sold. In addition, the current civil law issued on 71948/29/ and amended in 1954 stipulates that the real estate and movables belonging to the state or public legal persons and designated for public benefit were considered public property by law, by decree or by a decision of the competent

minister. Such property would not be disposed of, seized or owned by statute of limitations.

Thus, the legal concept of public money and property in civil law is the property owned by the state or public legal persons and allocated for public benefit such as seas, beaches, rivers and roads, or by laws or decisions such as government buildings, real estate and movables established, purchased or allocated for public benefit by laws or decisions. In light of the legal thought establishing that public property is owned by all people and is dedicated to serving them, no one has the power to sell it, seize it or own it by the statute of limitations, so that it may continue to provide public service until it ceases to be public property. This includes the cases of vehicles or equipment depreciation, evacuation of old buildings or replacing old roads with new roads as per city planning. The civil law has specified a mechanism for ending the status of public money and property by terminating their allocation to the public benefit, using the same mechanism of their allocation by law, decision or action.

In view of the importance of public money and property and the existence of a real interest that needs protection, the state



power deters whoever tempts to seize them and the penal code imposed stricter penalties for all forms of aggression against them to achieve private and public deterrence, for protecting public money and property.

The provisions of penal laws in Egypt, since 1883, regularly established the rules and forms of aggression against public money and property. The penal code was issued and was implemented by the civil courts, and it described the "acts of embezzlement of public funds," as crimes and forbade "civil servants to gain money in any illegal way or facilitate same for others". That code forbade the holders of government positions to benefit from their positions or the duties assigned to them directly or indirectly. In addition, it forbade the people entrusted with buying, selling or manufacturing something for the government from making any gains or profits for themselves or for others through cheating, and covered other acts constituting forms of encroachment on public money and property. After that, the current penal code was issued on 51937/8/ and its amendments on 71975/31/, with chapter four of Part II addressing the embezzlement of public money and encroachment on it and providing articles to criminalize many forms of civil servants' aggression against public money. These included acts of embezzlement and appropriation, facilitating the appropriation of public money, obtaining or attempting to make a profit or obtain a benefit for oneself or others, and willful or unintentional damage to the employer's money by causing serious damage to the business entity or encroachment on lands owned by any party whose funds are considered public funds.

Here, we should discuss what constitutes public money and property and the aggression against them or damage caused to them according to the legislator's vision in the penal code. It is clear that public money and property refer to the money and property wholly or partially owned by one of the parties specified by the penal code or subject to its supervision or management. These parties include the state, local administration units, public authorities, public institutions, public sector units, syndicates, federations, private institutions and associations of public interest, cooperative societies, companies, associations, economic units and the establishments involving any of the aforementioned entities as stakeholders, or any other entity, stipulated in the law as constituting public money and property.

It is noted from the foregoing that the Egyptian legislator expanded the concept of public money and property in the

In view of the importance of public money and property and the existence of a real interest that needs protection, the state power deters whoever tempts to seize them and the penal code imposed stricter penalties for all forms of aggression against them to achieve private and public deterrence, for protecting public money and property.

Given the fact that the protection of public money and property is a constitutional obligation for the state, the civil legislator sought to protect them from civil actions through prohibiting their sale, seizure or ownership by the statute of limitations, while the criminal legislator imposed stricter penalties for aggression against them or damaging them for protecting the people's money

penal code beyond its concept in the civil law, which limited their concept to money and property of the state and public legal persons, which are allocated for the public benefit. The penal code focused on the criterion of ownership without including public benefit, depending on their being owned by any of the aforementioned parties or subject to their supervision or management. It expanded the concept of public money and property by considering some types of privately owned public money and property, based on their origin, as public property in the event of aggression against them in any way stated under the embezzlement and aggression against public money and property section in the penal code. These include the money and property of syndicates and unions, which are considered private persons, according to their origin, and their money and property are considered private property belonging to their members and are allocated to meet their needs. The same applies to the money and property of companies and associations that are subject to management or supervision of the state, or in which the state is one of the aforementioned parties. They are, according to origin, private money and property. However, the legislator found it necessary to provide protection for them equal to the protection provided for public money and property owned by the state or public legal persons because they provide public services. Thus, the legislator used the criterion of importance of the interest to be protected, and protected them through imposing severe punishments for anyone who tries to transgress against them or damage them intentionally or out of negligence, making them equal to the money and property owned by state.

Given the fact that the protection of public money and property is a constitutional obligation for the state, the civil legislator sought to protect them from civil actions through prohibiting their sale, seizure or ownership by the statute of limitations, while the criminal legislator imposed stricter penalties for aggression against them or damaging them for protecting the people's money.

The legislator provided the rules to the officials of the state, with its control, executive and judicial agencies, as well as to the people to put these rules into practical application so that every citizen feels that his share in the public money and property is protected. Through legal and actual application, public money and property will have an apparent owner who protects and develops them, just like private money and property.



Efforts of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy (July-December)

Editorial Board

The efforts of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy continue in preparing generations qualified for combating corruption, out of the Academy's belief in the importance of spreading awareness and providing distinguished training based on the modern methods of combating all forms of corruption, for enhancing the trainees' capabilities and spreading an institutional and societal culture for fighting corruption. In this context, the Academy has conducted many activities and exerted great efforts in various fields, namely:



In the area of signing memorandums of understanding:



A memorandum of understanding was signed between the Academy and the Institute of National Planning. It was signed by First Undersecretary Khaled Abdel-Rahman, Assistant Chairman of the Authority for Academic Affairs and International Cooperation, on the Academy's behalf and by Professor Dr. Ashraf El-Araby, President of the Institute, on the Institute's behalf with the aim of developing training methods between the two parties and conducting research and studies.



Undersecretary Dr. Mohamed Salama, Director of the Academy, signed a memorandum of cooperation protocol with the American University in Cairo, represented by Prof. James Ketterer, Dean of the School of Continuing Education. This aims to enhance training capabilities through holding English language courses as well as advanced courses in the fields of law and administration and courses for training trainers to keep up with scientific progress in various fields.

In the area of holding courses for national and local authorities:



Graduation of the first batch of academic diploma in the field of governance and anti-corruption, reflecting keenness of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy to develop the skills of students of the governance and anti-corruption diploma in various disciplines. In addition, the governance and anti-corruption diploma qualifies students to obtain an academic master's degree in the same field through cooperation between the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy and the Faculty of Economics and Political Science in Cairo University.



The Academy continues to hold training courses in the field of combating and preventing corruption for various cadres of personnel in the state's administrative apparatus. These cadres belong to different ministries and bodies, including the Ministry of Petroleum, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, the local administration cadres, the National Elections Authority, the State Information Service and the National Council for Disability Affairs.

In the area of regional and international cooperation:



Assistant Chairman of the Authority for Academic Affairs and International Cooperation received Mr. Azzam Bin Baqi, Chairman of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, and a number of the Commission's leaders to exchange experiences and enhance the cooperation and coordination aspects between the two parties.



Through partnership with the Institute of Governance and Sustainable Development, Director of the Academy gave a lecture to (60) women from African countries, representing senior leadership and executive levels on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, good practices, challenges and the ways of facing them during implementation.



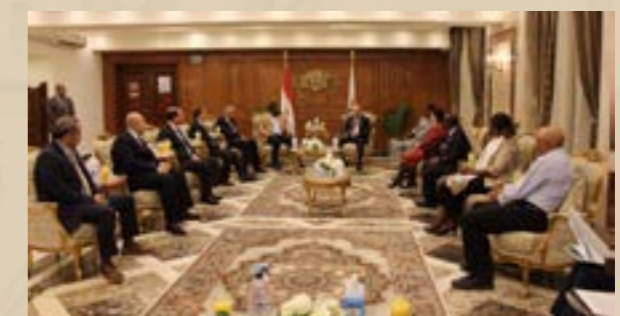
The Academy held a training seminar for African journalists, who were briefed on the Authority's experiences in preparing community awareness campaigns for explaining the different numerous methods and forms of corruption. The role of the Administrative Control Authority in taking anti-corruption measures was also highlighted, based on the Authority's keenness to develop the skills of African cadres in related fields.



The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy held a workshop on migration and human trafficking, with participation of a number of law enforcement officials, the embassies of some African countries and European Union countries and a number of international institutions, where the participants reviewed the Egyptian efforts in the field of fighting migration and human trafficking.



The Academy held a training course for African cadres in the field of governance and anti-corruption. The course was attended by (25) trainees, representing (15) African countries, representing the cadres working in the field of preventing and combating corruption from law enforcement agencies, the judiciary and prosecution.



The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy received a delegation from the African Peer Review Mechanism to discuss cooperation frameworks in the areas of preventing and combating corruption.



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

People at the Heart of Facing Corruption



Ms. Cristina Albertin

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Regional Representative for the Middle East and North Africa

Corruption is a multifaceted and layered problem that affects countries across the world. It goes beyond institutional offices and hallways; its heart is the people. Citizens of Member States are all responsible for acts of and prevention of corruption – individuals who request or provide services, the employees across different cycles, those who do the hiding and those who do the auditing, and more. In turn, corruption poses serious threats to the people as it affects development, stability and security at national, regional and international levels. It undermines the rule of law, hinders economic growth, distorts the allocation of resources and endangers the citizens' rights to live in secure and peaceful societies.

While calculating the cost of corruption may be complex, it is estimated that corruption approximately costs 5% of the global Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which clearly shows how it is taking a huge toll on everyone's life, especially the poor and the most vulnerable.

The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the impact of corruption, revealed weaknesses and gaps and highlighted the fact that countries cannot respond to corruption without collaboration.

UNODC supports the Member States in facing corruption by working with people across the relevant institutions and authorities, youth, the private sector, and the general public.

The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. The Convention's far-reaching approach and the mandatory character of many of its provisions make it a unique tool for developing a comprehensive response to a global problem. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) provides secretariat services to the Conference of the States Parties (CoSP), the main decision-making body established under the Convention, and its subsidiary bodies. Within this frame, UNODC provides tailored technical assistance activities to States in support of the implementation of the Convention and mandates related to economic fraud and identity-related crime. This technical assistance covers several thematic areas and takes different forms, including legislative assistance, assistance in the development of national policies and strategies, capacity building activities, etc.

The UNODC Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa (ROMENA) works with the Member States across the region to support them in the implementation of UNCAC, the development and adoption of anti-corruption strategies, the development of anti-corruption legislations, the enhancement of institutional capacity to prevent and counter corruption, delivery of training on anti-corruption related matters, as well as cooperation with public and private sectors and civil society on preventing and combating corruption.

Through these interventions, and over the course of the past 10 years, UNODC held more than 165 national and regional events on combatting and preventing corruption and money laundering and promoting integrity with the participation of more than 4,550 people from law enforcement, public prosecution, judiciary, financial intelligence units, academia, other national authorities and the private sector. Our work involved study tours between

different countries to allow for practical insight exchange and the establishment of formal and informal channels which in turn helped to enhance regional cooperation and coordination between MENA countries.

Our capacity building activities are designed to suit country-specific contexts and with a practical approach to ensure long-term impact. UNODC also focuses on addressing the linkages between corruption, financial crimes and other serious organized crimes such as trafficking in person and smuggling of migrants to better support national authorities in addressing them. Furthermore, our joint efforts with the MENA Member States included the deployment of the UNODC goCASE and goAML software as part of its strategic response to corruption, money laundering and organized crime. goCASE is an integrated and investigative case management and analysis tool for government law enforcement, investigative and prosecution agencies of all UN Member States. Similarly, goAML is an integrated database and intelligent analysis system developed for Member States to support them in countering financial crimes including money laundering and terrorist financing. The ability of both applications to receive, input, validate, collate, analyze and manage information in an orderly and systematic fashion can significantly impact the outcome of an investigation and the ability of investigators, financial analysts or prosecutors to build a case that includes all available evidence in a format that is understandable and logical.

A parallel innovative initiative is the recently launched UNODC Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment (GRACE) initiative, which aims to enhance the role

in recent years, UNODC strengthened its cooperation with the Egyptian National Anti-Corruption Academy through partnering in the implementation of anti-corruption programmes that benefit public and private officials from Egypt and other countries in the region. This partnership contributed to strengthening national and regional cooperation and facilitated the exchange of expertise among practitioners from the region and established formal and informal communication among them



of education and empower youth in preventing and countering corruption. This initiative expands on UNODC's anti-corruption efforts by focusing on three areas: Primary and Secondary Education; Academia and Research; and Youth Empowerment by working with children, young men and women, educators, academics, and other relevant stakeholders. This global initiative is implemented in several countries across the globe and was launched lately in our region, specifically in Egypt and Libya and will be implemented in other countries in the coming period.

The private sector as well plays a pivotal role in addressing corruption and complementing Governments' efforts. For instance, by engaging Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in this fight, private sector companies will help in protecting their investments, securing a transparent and trustworthy business environment and promoting fair practices, which will eventually lead to corruption-free solidities. UNODC has been working with SMEs and anti-corruption authorities to prevent and combat corruption in private sector companies. UNODC's support consists of the delivery of capacity building trainings to private and public officials, development of relevant anti-corruption legislation, anti-corruption risk assessment tools and research in addition to facilitating direct dialogue between the public and private sectors.

Every single person - young and old - has a role to play to prevent and counter corruption and to promote resilience and integrity at all levels of society. On the same day, the 31st of October 2003, the General Assembly adopted the UNCAC and requested that the Secretary-General designate UNODC as secretariat for the Convention's Conference of States Parties (resolution 584/), the Assembly also designated 9 December as International Anti-Corruption Day, to raise awareness of corruption and everyone's role in countering and preventing it. An example of raising awareness efforts has been an anti-corruption media campaign in Egypt that attracted more than 55 million viewers on national TV.

In Egypt, UNODC enjoys a solid partnership with the Government, in particular the Administrative Control Authority (ACA). ACA has been a key partner in UNODC's work on preventing and addressing corruption, not just in Egypt, but in the MENA region as well. This partnership was formed through the implementation of regional and national programmes on different thematic areas including countering corruption; enhancing integrity, strengthening financial investigation capacity; strengthening the private sector capacity to counter corruption and building the capacity of practitioners in Egypt and beyond.

ACA spares no efforts in engaging with UNODC

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in all of its activities; in recent years, UNODC strengthened its cooperation with the Egyptian National Anti-Corruption Academy through partnering in the implementation of anti-corruption programmes that benefit public and private officials from Egypt and other countries in the region. This partnership contributed to strengthening national and regional cooperation and facilitated the exchange of expertise among practitioners from the region and established formal and informal communication among them. UNODC also partnered with ACA with regards to the implementation of GRACE initiative as well as combating corruption in sports and tackling competition manipulation.

In December 2021, Egypt presided over the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties (CoSP) to the UNCAC in Sharm El-Sheikh, during which Member States have adopted a political declaration to intensify the efforts to combat corruption and implement the UNCAC. The CoSP was concluded with the adoption of a set of recommendations and the "Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration" on "Strengthening International Cooperation in the Prevention of and Fight Against Corruption During Times of Emergencies and Crisis

Response and Recovery" that calls for States Parties to strengthen cooperation to prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during the time of crisis.

Egypt also hosted in November 2022 the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which brings me to highlight the great importance of addressing corruption linked to crimes that affect the environment. Furthermore, if corruption persists within the action to address climate change, it will only slow the process.

Let's all work to make 2023 a year of action on all fronts. We should all use and accelerate the momentum gained from the adoption of the CoSP recommendations and work towards making a better future for the coming generations.





Egyptian Hands of Development in Africa

Ambassador Hisham Al-Maqoud
Deputy Secretary General of the Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development

The foundation of the Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development was announced by President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi during the African Union Summit held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in 2014. The Agency was established through incorporation of the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation with Africa with the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation with the Commonwealth, the Islamic Countries and the newly independent countries. The Agency represents the development arm for the Egyptian state concerned about promoting and improving collaboration among the south-south countries, particularly in Africa. In addition, the Agency seeks to employ the Egyptian capabilities and experiences for serving the African countries to support them in the achievement of their developmental goals and it receives a great support from the political leadership for accomplishing such goal. The Agency has a board of directors chaired by Sameh Shoukry, Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs with membership of both the Deputy Minister for African Affairs and the Assistant to the Minister for African, Asian, European and Financial Affairs and International Cooperation.

The Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development uses all its available tools for supporting African countries and the Commonwealth of Nations. In fact, it organizes many training courses and capacity-building programs in different fields for cadres from Africa and the Commonwealth in cooperation with national, regional and international institutions experienced in the different fields covered by the Agency's agenda, including agriculture, irrigation, health, new and renewable energy, education, diplomacy, judicial training, peace and security.

Since its foundation, it has organized more than 350 training programs for capacity building for more than 14000 trainees from different countries. Moreover, it dispatches experts to the African countries in response to their needs to overcome deficit in the areas of interest, in addition to training and preparing the African cadres in these areas, with the number of Egyptian experts, currently working in African countries, exceeding 30 experts. The Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development also provides humanitarian and relief assistance for African countries for enhancing their capabilities to face challenges and alleviate the suffering of their peoples, specifically at the times of crisis and disasters.

In this context, the Agency has provided more than 180 batches of humanitarian aids for African countries and has dispatched more than 35 medical convoys and mobile clinics to the distressed areas in African countries to provide high-quality medical services to the African peoples.

Likewise, the Agency's framework covers awarding educational scholarships in public and private Egyptian universities for African students for studying different topics based on their countries' areas of priority. Out of the Agency's belief in the educational role in improving people's lives and changing the countries reality to the better, it collaborates with several prominent Egyptian universities and educational institutions such as Cairo University, Ain Shams University, the American University in Cairo, and Senghor University.

Moreover, the current total number of African students studying in Egyptian Universities has reached 47 students, whose living and tuition expenses during the whole period of their study in Egypt are paid by the Agency. The Agency currently seeks to establish cooperation with several Egyptian universities and educational institutions to provide more scholarships for African students, including Zewail City of Science, Technology and Innovation, Egypt Japan University of Science

and Technology and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport.

The Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development has achieved success in various areas, particularly women's empowerment, security and peace, agriculture and irrigation, health and media, which are the topics addressed by the UN Office for the South-South Cooperation in its report published in September 2020. In addition, the Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development supervises the implementation and activation of the Nile Basin Countries Development Initiative, which has a high priority on the Agency's agenda

& Technology and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport.

The Agency's framework also covers cooperation with corresponding international agencies and bodies working in the field of development within the trilateral cooperation framework, aiming to implement a number of development projects in African countries and provide capacity-building programs for cadres in those countries. In fact, the Agency has a wide network of international partners, including the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Islamic Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the Technical Aid Fund for Africa of the League of Arab States, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the UN Development Program.

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In addition, the Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development supervises the implementation and activation of the Nile Basin Countries Development Initiative, which has a high priority on the Agency's agenda, given the interest attached by the Egyptian political leadership and government to activating this initiative and strengthening its role in supporting development in Africa. The Agency studies and implements many projects in African countries in coordination with their authorities in "urgent priority projects", which have a quick and effective impact on the life quality in those countries. In this regard, the Agency has implemented several projects, including the Magdi Yacoub Heart Hospital in Rwanda, the Project of Malaria Control in South Sudan as well as the project of digging 100 groundwater wells in Uganda and Tanzania.

Within the framework of fruitful cooperation with the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, affiliated to the Administrative Control Authority, the Academy organized a course for African cadres during the period 2123- February 2022, as part of the presidential grants in the field of anti-corruption. The Agency's agenda with the National Anti-Corruption Academy for the fiscal year 20222023/ also includes four joint training courses in the field of combating corruption for cadres from African countries, and organizing two more training courses by the Academy, as a presidential grant.

The Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development believes in the principle of providing African solutions to African problems to enhance the sense of ownership of the various development projects of the African peoples and support the continuity and sustainability of these projects. Most importantly, all projects and programs implemented by the Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development are in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and Africa's Agenda 2063.

Accordingly, the Agency will continue to build a larger base of partners, who share the same development agenda for Africa to help it overcome its development challenges. This eventually supports the Egyptian state's strategy, aiming to enhance the Egyptian presence and role in Africa at all levels.

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In Confirmation of the Status and Role of Egypt: The Administrative Control Authority Chairs the Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities



Egypt's representative votes during elections of the Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities.



Undersecretary /Dr. Khaled Mohamed Said
Head of the Technical Secretariat Sector of the National Coordinating
Committee for the Prevention and Combating of Corruption

During the events of the third conference of the East Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (EAAACA) held in Bujumbura, Burundi, in 2009, the late President of Burundi proposed the idea of creating a continental African platform for combating corruption. In 2013, during the meeting held in Ghanaian capital Accra, the Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (AAACA) emphasized the significance of joint action for the elimination of corruption in Africa and adopted the Articles of Association of the Association, as an independent international organization comprising the authorities working in the field of combating corruption in African countries. The Association has the goal of strengthening cooperation and coordination among African countries for preventing and combating corruption, within the framework of two conventions (the United Nations Convention Against Corruption and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption). In addition, it was decided that the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Association would be in Bujumbura, Burundi.

The organizational structure of the Association consists of two main organs. The first is the General Assembly, the supreme organ of the Association, which comprises representatives of the 39 anti-corruption authorities as members in addition to some honorary members. It holds its meetings once a year and is chaired by president of the Association. It held five meetings for the Association, the last of which was in Bujumbura, Burundi during the period 2024- June 2022. The General Assembly has five important terms of reference:

- (1) Determining the policies and strategies for achieving the Association's goals;
- (2) Election, appointment and dismissal of the holders of positions provided for in the Articles of Association;
- (3) Approving the budget and codes of conduct proposed by the Executive Committee of the Association;
- (4) Approving the admission of new members and amending the articles of association of the Association; and

Egypt emphasizes harnessing the capabilities of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy for developing the African competences as well as providing all means of technical and logistical support to establish the African Center for Anti-Corruption Studies.

(5) Receiving and reviewing the annual reports submitted by the Executive Committee.

The second organ is the Executive Committee, which is concerned with coordinating the activities of the Association in general, preparing and submitting annual budgets to the General Assembly for approval, preparing the activity programs and the annual work plan and managing the Association. The Executive Committee has all powers not expressly assigned to the General Assembly, the President or the Secretary General. The Committee holds its meetings at least once a year, and it has the right to determine the place and time for its meetings. It comprises eight members:

(1) President: He/She chairs the Association and represents it legally, and is elected for three years starting from the date of the General Assembly meeting during which he/she was elected until the end of the third annual meeting of the Association. The presidency of the Association is rotated among chairmen of the anti-corruption authorities in the Association.

(2) First Vice-President: He/She exercises the president's powers in his/her absence and is elected by the General Assembly for three years, and he/she must be from a geographical area other than that of both the president and the second vice-president.

(3) Second Vice-President: S/He exercises the president's powers in his/her absence and the first vice-president, and he/she is elected for three years, and he/she must be from a geographical area other than that of both the president and the first vice-president.

(4) Five members: They are elected by the General Assembly for three years, renewable only once, and they reflect a geographical representation of all regions (North Africa, East Africa, South Africa, West Africa and Central Africa).

According to the Association's Articles of Association, any official African authority specialized in combating corruption may apply to join the Association, which comprises 39 anti-corruption authorities, distributed according to geographical regions.

- North Africa: Egypt, Algeria and Tunisia
- South Africa: Namibia, Malawi, Madagascar, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.
- East Africa: Burundi, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Comoros.
- West Africa: Ghana, Senegal, Niger, Sao Tome and Principe, Mali, Benin, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Togo, Burkina Faso and Cameroon.
- Central Africa: Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Chad.

Since the foundation of the Association in 2013 until 2021, the Executive Committee elections were held twice and were suspended twice because of the Ebola epidemic in 2016 and the Corona pandemic in 2020.

The first elections were held in 2013 in Accra, Ghana, and they resulted in the election of a president from Ghana, a first vice-president from South Sudan and a second vice-president from Gabon. Egypt was elected to represent the North Africa region, Liberia the west Africa region, Cameroon the Central Africa region, Malawi the South Africa region and Uganda the East Africa region.

The second elections were held in 2017, in Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, and resulted in the election of a president from Republic of the Congo, a first vice-president from Senegal and a second vice-president from Zambia. Egypt was re-elected to represent North Africa, Niger for West Africa, Democratic Republic of the Congo for Central Africa, Tanzania for South Africa (as an exception) and Uganda re-elected for East Africa.

The fifth annual meeting of the General Assembly of the



A Training Event at the Headquarters of the Egyptian Ant-Corruption Academy

Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities was held under the title: "Protecting Africa's wealth and combating corruption and illegal financial flows" during the period 2024- June 2023 in Bujumbura, Burundi and it witnessed a number of events.

- There were nine sessions divided into specialized sessions in the field of the Association's strategic plan 20222026-, the role of anti-corruption authorities in combating illegal financial flows as well as reviewing the Association's administrative and financial procedures guide and the Association's code of conduct and ethics.

- Representatives of the Administrative Control Authority made participations in all the conference events and seminars, through reviewing the best successful practices and national efforts in developing and following up implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 20192022-.

Through cooperation with the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the delegation of the Administrative Control Authority held meetings with the delegations, seeking support for Egypt's electoral file and highlighting Egypt's efforts in the areas of preventing and combating corruption.

On 23 June 2022, the Executive Committee elections (2022-2025) were held under the direct secret ballot system, whereby each country would have one vote and winning was by absolute majority for all seats. Each candidate authority was allowed to present the most important points of its electoral program in five minutes, and the result was Egypt (represented by the Administrative Control Authority), winning the seat of Association president with 17 votes, against 12 votes for Uganda. In addition,

Moreover, the presidential grant was implemented for 14 of African cadres specialized in the anti-corruption filed to share experiences with them during the next three years (2023-2025), following the success achieved in training 60 African cadres. This reflects harnessing the capabilities of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy for developing the African competences as well as providing all means of technical and logistical support to establish the African Center for Anti-Corruption Studies.

The Administrative Control Authority's election as president of the Association for three years reflects the confidence of African countries in the Egyptian position and role in Africa as well as in the Egyptian experiences in preventing and combating all manifestations and forms of corruption. It also reflects Egypt's interest in establishing cooperation with various International forums and bodies concerned with preventing and combating corruption in Africa.

Mali won the seat of first vice-president with 17 votes against 12 votes for Senegal, and Cameroon won the seat of second vice-president with 15 votes against 14 votes for Zambia. Moreover, there was the selection of representatives of the regional groups by acclamation: Algeria for North Africa, Zimbabwe for South Africa, Sierra Leone for West Africa, Tanzania for East Africa, and the Republic of Congo (Brazzaville) for Central Africa.

The Administrative Control Authority (ACA) delivered a speech on the occasion of chairmanship of the Association, to thank the Burundian government for its hospitality and all former members of the Second Executive Committee for their strenuous efforts for managing the Association. It also congratulated Mr. Bizimana for assuming the duties of the Association's Secretary General as well as the new Executive Committee members for leading such an important organization for combating corruption in Africa. Moreover, the presidential grant was implemented for 180 of African cadres specialized in the anti-corruption filed to share experiences with them during the next three years (20232025-), following the success achieved in training 250 African cadres. This reflects harnessing the capabilities of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy for developing the African competences as well as providing all means of technical and logistical support to establish the African Center for Anti-Corruption Studies. Such center is expected to play a role in analyzing all international indicators related to combating corruption as well as suggesting the combating policies and improving African countries classification as per those indicators. Egypt also encourages African countries, which have not joined these conventions and assemblies to hasten to join the Association for eliminating the corruption risks.



Celebration of the Administrative Control Authority's election as president of the Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities.

Burundi 2022



The fifth annual meeting of the Association General Assembly has adopted 14 resolutions, the most significant of which is adoption of the strategic plan of the African Anti-Corruption Authorities Association 20222026-, based on five strategic goals. The first is improving the Association's institutional and operational capabilities and the second is spreading the culture of preventing and combating corruption and illegal financial flows. The third goal is developing leadership capabilities in the field of preventing and combating corruption and illegal financial flows; the fourth goal is promoting cooperation with national and international partners in the field of combating corruption and illegal financial flows, while the fifth goal is establishing the African Center for Anti-Corruption Studies.

On 24 June 2022, the first Executive Committee meeting chaired by Egypt was held, with one of its most remarkable results being the necessity of maintaining the Authorities' representatives in the Association's future meetings to ensure effectiveness as well as approving Mali's request to host the Executive Committee meeting in 2023. Two more results were approving Tanzania's offer to host the following meeting and assigning the Association's secretary with the preparation of an executive plan to implement the Association's strategy 2022-2026, including the activities, the implementation official and the schedule.

On 28 September 2022, the Administrative Control Authority (ACA), chairing the Association, implemented the Association's strategy 20222026- through signing a memorandum of

The Administrative Control Authority (ACA) implemented the Association's strategy 2022-2026 through signing a memorandum of understanding between the Association and the African Development Bank located in Abidjan, the Ivory Coast. The memorandum aimed at developing initiatives for building institutional capabilities and organizing national, regional and international seminars and symposia.

understanding between the Association and the African Development Bank located in Abidjan, the Ivory Coast. The memorandum aimed at developing initiatives for building institutional capabilities and organizing national, regional and international seminars and symposia for the benefit of the member Authorities and the country members of the Bank. In addition, it aimed at reviewing the research activities as well as the national anti-corruption academies and training centers activities and encouraging their development in the fields of preventing and combating corruption. More goals include compliance with regional and international anti-corruption conventions and the efforts exerted for implementing the anti-corruption national strategies in addition to cooperation in protecting the African Development Bank from African corruption crimes.

In fact, a workshop was organized on the memorandum of understanding sideline, with participation of the representatives of the Association Executive Committee, the regional Associations for Anti-Corruption Authorities, the African Bank leaders, president of the African Union Advisory Board Against Corruption, a representative of Transparency International in Berlin and an NGO in the Ivory Coast.

In conclusion, it must be emphasized that the Administrative Control Authority's election as president of the Association for three years reflects the confidence of African countries in the Egyptian position and role in Africa as well as in the Egyptian experiences in preventing and combating all manifestations and forms of corruption. It also reflects Egypt's interest in establishing cooperation with various International forums and bodies concerned with preventing and combating corruption in Africa.



Meeting of the Workgroups at the Headquarters of the UNODC in Vienna

Egypt's International Efforts in Combating Corruption

 Editorial Board

Meeting of the Workgroups at the Headquarters of the UNODC in Vienna

Egypt chaired the workgroups of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Vienna during the period 7-11 November. Minister Amr Adel, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, participated in his capacity as president of the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and attended the meetings of the workgroups concerned with asset recovery, strengthening international cooperation and reviewing the implementation of the Convention.

Over five days, the workgroups discussed the mechanisms for enhancing international cooperation, exchanging the information and gained experiences as well as the efforts of implementing the Convention. They also discussed the successful practices and the challenges to implementing Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and

fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery.

The sessions included the Administrative Control Authority's review of the importance and reasons for Egypt's adoption of Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration, being the first resolution of its kind that deals with international cooperation in the field of preventing and combating corruption during crises, which is considered a persistent issue.

National efforts in the field of governance and combating corruption in addressing the repercussions of Covid 19 and the social protection program adopted by the Egyptian state were presented. In addition, Egypt's non-official efforts in international cooperation with anti-corruption agencies around the world to address cross-border corruption were reviewed. Delegations from the United States, Australia, Brazil, Italy, Romania, the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) participated in reviewing Egypt's efforts for implementing



Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration.

Some meetings were held on the sidelines of the sessions, with some chairpersons and officials of anti-corruption and law enforcement agencies in some countries and concerned international bodies, participating in the conference for discussing the anti-corruption priorities to reduce the corruption risks. The closing session ended with approval of the reports of various workgroups.

These activities have enhanced permanent and effective communication at all levels to support the efforts of combating and preventing corruption. The Administrative Control Authority Chairman had previously held a meeting with Dr. Ghada Wali, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime at the headquarters of the Authority in Cairo. During the meeting, the two parties discussed the ways of activating Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration, issued at the conclusion of the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption chaired by the Administrative Control Authority. They also reviewed joint activities and events in the field of refining the capabilities of cadres concerned with preventing and combating corruption, organized crime and the human trafficking crimes. In addition, they addressed the ways of seeking assistance of the national cadres with distinguished experiences from the Administrative Control Authority at the regional and international levels, as well as enhancing cooperation with the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, the training and educational agency of the Authority.

During the meeting, Minister Amr Adel appreciated the role played by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, represented by Dr. Ghada Wali, in the field of supporting implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, cooperation with the agencies working in this field and training their cadres. He also stressed the importance of cooperation with the agencies operating in the field of preventing and combating corruption at the international and regional levels



First Ministerial Meeting of the Anti-Corruption Agencies in Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

Dr. Ghada Wali confirmed the UNODC's keenness on maintaining sustainable partnership with the Administrative Control Authority, out of the UNODC's belief in the important role played by the Authority in the field of facing and preventing corruption, and combating human trafficking and illegal immigration.

The Administrative Control Authority reviewed the importance and reasons for Egypt's adoption of Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration, being the first resolution of its kind that deals with international cooperation in the field of preventing and combating corruption during crises, which is considered a persistent issue.

to protect the development efforts, expressing his aspiration for more fruitful and constructive cooperation with the UNODC in the areas of mutual interest during the coming period.

For her part, Dr. Ghada Wali congratulated Minister Amr Adel for assuming the position of Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, looking forward to establishing continuous cooperation between the two parties in all areas of mutual interest. She also confirmed the UNODC's keenness on maintaining sustainable partnership with the Administrative Control Authority, out of the UNODC's belief in the important role played by the Authority in the field of facing and preventing corruption, and combating human trafficking and illegal immigration. In addition, Dr. Ghada Wali referred to the UNODC's interest in providing the necessary aspects of support to the Authority during its presidency of the Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities, given its prominent regional role in this field.

In the same context, the Administrative Control Authority previously participated in the meeting of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption regarding the achievements related to fulfilling the commitments of the Political Declaration for combating corruption, adopted in the special session of the General Assembly during the period 5-8 September 2022 in Vienna.

The meetings included seminars on good practices, challenges and the ways of proceeding with fulfilling the commitments stated in the sections of the Political Declaration.

Meeting of the Governmental Experts for Implementing Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration

The Administrative Control Authority held an international meeting for the international experts concerned with the United Nations Convention against Corruption at the headquarters of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, in the presence of Minister Amr Adel, Chairman of the Authority, and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The participants discussed the implementation of Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on combating corruption in times of emergency and crisis response, and representatives of 30 countries, many international organizations and international experts attended the meeting.

Adoption of Makkah Al-Mukarramah Convention in the field of law enforcement and combating corruption

Minister Amr Adel, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, headed the Egyptian delegation during the first ministerial meeting of the law enforcement and anti-corruption bodies of the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), which was held in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The meeting was concluded with the adoption of Makkah Al-Mukarramah Convention for the OIC member states in the field of law enforcement and combating corruption.



Climate Change Egypt between Facing the Difficult Challenge and Taking the Promising Opportunity



Dr. Enas Abu -Taleb

Former CEO of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)
Professor of the Liquid Waste Treatment Technology and Environmental
Studies in the Environmental and Climate Change Research Institute
(ECCRI), the National Research Center

Talking about climate change has exceeded the stage of wondering whether it is just a transient phenomenon or a factual change with known causes and effects causing suffering in the whole world. Climate change is a natural phenomenon caused by the changes happening during different time eras, with human activities contributing to the acceleration of the changes occurrence. In fact, the increase in the concentrations of greenhouse gases after the Industrial Revolution at unprecedented rates because of the increasing human development activities led to an increase in the volume of heat absorbed by such gases and the thermal content of the atmosphere. This caused thermal imbalance because of the rise in the average temperature of the Earth, causing climate changes and the consequent impact on all life aspects in their different manifestations

The temperature increase on a permanent and unprecedented basis has led to an increase in water evaporation from water bodies and a decrease in soil moisture because of the increased evaporation. This increases drought and leads to desertification in some areas, as well as reduction in the quantities of water flowing into groundwater reservoirs. In addition, the rise in temperature has led to an increase in the water quantities required for growing crops and the agricultural sector needs. It also increases the demand on water derived from the limited water resources and causes shift in the season dates with the accompanying disturbance in weather conditions that have caused disasters such as torrential rains and

floods. This state threatens human lives and destroys property in different areas on the Earth.

Climate change has become an obsession delaying the process of sustainable development and hampering the efforts aiming to raise the standard of living and reduce poverty, given the fact that the sectors most affected by climate change are water, agriculture and coastal areas.

The water sector is one of the most important sectors affected by climate change, which consequently has negative effects on food and energy and direct and indirect impacts on the Egyptian economy.

The climate change phenomenon is a transnational phenomenon, and it has been noticeable in recent years that climate disturbances represented in high temperatures and the lack of rains or increase in the off-season rains negatively affect the quality of food crops, fodders and animal production in Egypt, which requires expanding the agricultural area to achieve the minimum food security level. The increased demand on water required for expanding the agricultural area in light of the water deficit resulting from the decrease in water flows from our share of the Nile River in addition to the local dry weather and the increasing population growth all constitute a challenge to the sustainable development plans.

The rise in temperatures threatens with a rise in the sea levels, causing drowning the Egyptian coasts, displacing the population and regression in tourism, which may lead to dire social and economic consequences. In addition, the rise in the Mediterranean Sea level will cause the coastal lands to be exposed to salinization and the coastal aquifer to be damaged. This will negatively affect agricultural productivity, especially with the extensive use of aquifer water, in addition to flooding of vast areas of the Nile Delta and damaging the best agricultural lands that produce 3040% of Egypt's food and agricultural production and 50% of the industrial production.

In addition, the implementation of agricultural and industrial development plans to meet the population growth faces great challenges, most notably the water shortage, caused by the manifestations of climate change. The biggest problem is that the poor segments are the most affected by the repercussions of climate change because it obliges them to leave their communities, a state that makes adopting supportive policies and exerting vigorous efforts for facing climate change a demanding requirement, not a luxury.

The mechanisms for limiting the effects of climate change are based on taking measures for reducing the greenhouse gases emissions, focusing on the need to curb the increase in such emissions, aiming to achieve balance between anthropogenic emissions and their removal processes as well as to achieve adaptation in facing the climate change negative effects. Adaptation here means taking the necessary actions and measures to adapt to climate change. Such measures vary from one country to another based on their respective geographical locations, their financial capabilities as well as the degree of their vulnerability to the negative climate changes. They include building flood defenses, establishing early warning systems for hurricanes and switching to drought-resistant crops.

Although Egypt produces only 0.6% of the volume of greenhouse gases emissions, it considers adopting mitigation measures and adaptation to climate change as being essential matters. That is why the Egyptian government has taken measures to switch to a low-carbon economy, because it is more resilient in facing climate change, and it helps in creating new job opportunities while adopting an approach integrating the environmental and social dimensions for addressing the climate change negative effects.

Mitigation measures are applied in new projects by switching to low-emission technologies for reducing the high emissions, which will help achieve the goals of sustainable development. This is based on the use of new and renewable energy, investing in improving energy efficiency in the various sectors, recycling and processing solid and agricultural waste as well as using natural gas or electricity in the sectors of transport and small industries.

In fact, investing in the measures of adapting to climate change

In fact, Egypt is a promising market for investment in the context of climate action in the fields of clean energy, given the fact that God has endowed Egypt with natural resources such as the sun and wind farms, making investment possible in the solar power plants and wind energy projects. In addition, Egypt is one of the attractive countries regarding localization of the technology of manufacturing solar cells and the components of desalination plants.

The Egyptian economy faces growing development challenges and pressures on the state budget to implement both mitigation and adaptation projects in light of the lack of sufficient funding to implement all measures required for facing the climate change impacts and negative effects on ecosystems.

is crucial, because of its economic dimensions and its role in facing the decline in water flows caused by climate change, which has consequently affected agricultural and industrial activities and the population distribution. For bridging the gap between water needs and the available water resources, many adaptation projects are being implemented to develop water resources through treating and recycling sewage and agricultural water, desalination of the seawater as well as collecting the rain and torrential water. This also includes limiting pollution by supplying the sanitation services to villages and increasing the efficiency of water use through rehabilitating canals as well as reducing the intrusion of seawater by implementing an infrastructure for protecting the beaches.

The Egyptian economy faces growing development challenges and pressures on the state budget to implement both mitigation and adaptation projects in light of the lack of sufficient funding to implement all measures required for facing the climate change impacts and negative effects. Such effects impair environmental systems, human health, agriculture, industry and population distribution, causing hindrance of the economic growth and undermining the efforts of achieving the poverty eradication goal in the sustainable development plan.

After presenting all these clear challenges, we should make use of the climate change through creating opportunities for investment, development as well as strengthening the strategic presence of the state, the private sector and the international community for achieving a quantum leap in facing the climate change challenges. It is recommendable to invest in climate action on two tracks, both within the Egyptian state borders and on the continental track through cooperation with Africa countries.

Despite the repercussions of climate change, Egypt is a promising market for investment in the context of climate action in the fields of clean energy, given the fact that God has endowed Egypt with natural resources such as the sun and wind farms, where investment is possible in the solar power plants and wind energy projects. In addition, Egypt is one of the attractive countries regarding localization of the technology of manufacturing solar cells and the components of desalination plants in addition to projects for localization of the low-carbon technologies and the waste treatment and recycling technologies given the growing use of solar energy panels and electric batteries to ensure energy sustainability.

It is also essential to invest in mining the waste of desalination plants by extracting valuable salts from the brine resulting from desalination, such as nickel, cobalt, magnesium and lithium. In fact, the global demand for lithium has increased in an unprecedented way because it is considered the main and most important element in the manufacture of all types of small and large batteries, and an essential component in the manufacture of electric vehicles in the future. This makes the extraction of lithium from non-traditional ores a very urgent matter.

This includes creating opportunities for investment in the governmental and private sectors, and maximizing trade exchange between Egypt and the Nile Basin countries to support those countries and implement joint development projects such as electrical, agricultural and animal production projects. This can support the Egyptian economy and solve the economic problems resulting from the lack of water resources by importing virtual water from those countries to provide the agricultural and animal needs.

Finally, the government should work to create an environment motivating climate-related investment by developing financing tools and joint action mechanisms to take all these promising opportunities.

Khartoum Process against Irregular Migration Crimes

The Egyptian state is concerned with updating its legislation in various fields to address the successive changes at the political, economic and social levels, as well as to meet the targets while seeking to achieve its national goals and the consequent strategic and specialized goals. This was clearly reflected during the drafting of the constitutional amendments in 2014, by introducing articles establishing requisite bases for combating corruption through developing a national strategy for this purpose. In 2016, Law No. 82 of 2016 was drafted to face irregular migration, and was later amended by Law No. 2 of 2022, for enhancing control and imposing severe punishments for criminals. This was followed by amendment of the Administrative Control Authority law by Law No. 207 of 2017, which granted the Authority additional powers to enable it to curb the crimes of human trafficking, trafficking in human organs, trading in foreign exchange and the impersonation of civil servants. The Administrative Control Authority faced many different criminal incidents related to irregular migration through investigating various criminal cases within its jurisdiction, where irregular migration was associated with other crimes such as forging papers and using counterfeit documents. In fact, this crime involves human trafficking in one of its stages, where the migrant's will is denied, and s/he undergoes a state of vulnerability. Subsequently, acts of coercion and deception may be practiced against the migrant in addition to exposure to various forms of exploitation during the transfer, accommodation and reception operations, leading to practices tantamount to bondage and servitude. This represents an interference point for members of the Administrative Control Authority to tackle the crime of human trafficking through coordination with public prosecution regarding facing such sinful acts and practices, for gathering evidence and conducting investigations to proceed with inspection and probable arrest.

The Irregular Migration Crime

Countries are classified into three types with regard to the issues of smuggling migrants, namely origin country, transit country and destination country. The crime of human trafficking does not represent limited security problems, which can be tackled from the security point of view. Rather, they have many dimensions and reasons, which must be studied as a phenomenon inside the related region and country. In addition, we should study the motives of migrants, who usually leave the countries of origin after undergoing certain conditions





in their societies that give rise to the idea of migration. When such migrants cannot fulfill their desire through legitimate channels, they resort to irregular migration.

Introducing the Khartoum Process

In 2014, the “Khartoum Process” was launched as a joint process by the European Union, the countries of the Horn of Africa and the transit countries, including Egypt, to combat the causes and consequences of irregular migration. It studied establishing cooperation to fight the phenomenon, using an integrated approach combining diplomatic, security and development aspects.

Numerous meetings were held for member states within the framework of enhancing bilateral and regional cooperation, through dealing with the issue in its security, economic, social and humanitarian dimensions as well as exchanging experiences and good practices.

Participants meet at the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy

During the period 2224- November 2022, Egypt hosted a workshop for representatives of the member states on the innovative tools of law enforcement to tackle irregular migration, with participation of more than 60 participants and experts from 19 countries and 12 organizations and institutions concerned with the phenomenon. The workshop focused on financial aspects, documentation security and the use of technology and digital tools, in addition to collaboration and partnership as an overarching topic.

The participants met at the headquarters of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, which provided its expertise and knowledge capabilities to support all parties in achieving the goals of the Egyptian-African-European initiative. In fact, the Egyptian partnership established a fruitful path for the European-African dialogue on the issues of irregular migration, human trafficking and money laundering, within the framework of implementing the Egyptian national strategy to combat irregular migration. This was also in light of the joint presidency of Egypt and France of the initiative, which was developed into a platform for cooperation among the countries located in the region connecting the Horn of Africa and Europe.

During the workshop, national efforts in the field of combating irregular migration and human trafficking were reviewed, through dealing with this issue as one of the main areas of the terms of reference of the Administrative Control Authority, in accordance with its establishment law amended by Law No. 207 of 2017. This law added to its scope of work the activity of fighting human trafficking due to the close connection between the crimes of irregular migration and human trafficking, as previously explained, and the connection between corruption and the money laundering crimes. In fact, the Authority achieved great success in this field during the past period.

In addition, it has been emphasized that the Administrative Control Authority is interested in strengthening partnership and exchanging experiences with the African and European countries concerned with the initiative, considering it an important step in supporting the course of the European-African dialogue on the issues of irregular migration and human trafficking. In so doing, the Authority and the National Anti-Corruption Academy will provide all their capabilities, expertise, knowledge and qualified cadres to help in realizing the initiative goals.

Dr. Mohamed Salama
Editor-in-Chief





Thematic Workshop on Innovative Law Enforcement Tools to Tackle Irregular Migration



Innovative Law Enforcement Tools to Tackle Irregular Migration

Ambassador Ehab Badawy
Assistant Foreign Minister for Multilateral Affairs and International Security

Irregular Migration is a common challenge that requires international partnerships, so cooperation with member states in the Khartoum Process covers several areas related to Migration that can benefit both sides and reflects the shared understanding that Migration is a global issue that requires global solutions. A promising agreement was signed lately in that regard mainly to enhance border control in Egypt. We look forward to the technical value and expertise that Civipol will bring in.

Strengthening cooperation among the member states in the Khartoum process is of paramount importance given the transnational nature of irregular migration, and acknowledging that no country can face it alone effectively without cooperation with other partners.

Tackling smuggling of migrants is a truly global concern, with a large number of countries affected by it as countries of origin, transit or destination. Profit-seeking criminals smuggle migrants across borders and between continents. Smugglers take advantage of the large number of migrants willing to risk their lives in search of a better life when they cannot access legal channels of migration.

UNODC estimates that two of the principal smuggling routes - leading from East, North and West Africa to Europe

and from South America to North America - generate about \$6.75 billion a year for criminals. The global figure is likely to be much higher. Recent research on sub-Saharan Africa indicates that the smuggling of migrants is becoming an increasingly lucrative business, and consequently, competition for control over key routes is increasing, and smuggling groups are inciting migration from new geographical areas.

Enormous Efforts to Combat Smuggling of Migrants

We must admit that many countries along the two sides of the Mediterranean exerted enormous efforts to combat smuggling of migrants, however, the stricter the control gets, the higher the level of criminality and the more innovative criminal groups will get. This is particularly why this Workshop

is timely and significant.

I think that we all agree that smuggling of migrants is not narrowly a security issue but it is related to a set of pull and push factors in the countries of origin and destination.

The dramatic political challenges occurred in the Middle East in the past decade, which led to unprecedented human displacement and a security vacuum in several countries, created a very conducive environment for criminal networks of smugglers. The dire socio-economic situation in many African countries contributed to the success of recruitment policies by criminal networks.

Security measures will not be sufficient to deter or stop people from attempting to migrate regardless of the risks, if they do not have a viable alternative at home.

Thus, there is an urgent need to adapt the policy framework of our responses to provide a comprehensive range of strategies to prevent the exploitation of irregular migrants, refugees and asylum seekers by heinous human smugglers.

Meanwhile, and as much as we need to vigorously address the transnational organized crime of the smuggling of migrants, equal attention needs to be given to the protection of the victims. Smuggled migrants are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Even their lives are often put at risk: they may suffocate in containers, perish in deserts or drown at sea while being smuggled by profit-seeking criminals who treat them as goods.

The Egyptian Institutional and Legislative Framework to Combat Irregular Migration

I wish to seize this opportunity to share with you the policy and institutional and legislative framework Egypt has adopted to combat irregular migration. The government addresses migration issues from a comprehensive approach to ensure that our youth find opportunities at home, and that decision to migrate is taken out of choice not despair. Therefore, the Egypt Vision 2030 adopted by the government aims at creating job opportunities, alleviating poverty, improving socio-economic conditions for the most vulnerable segments and achieving sustainable development. The government works to enhance safe and orderly migration and believes that the expansion of regular pathways for migration and labor mobility schemes can provide youth with livelihood opportunities at the regional and global levels.

Considerable progress was made in recent years in strengthening its legal and institutional frameworks to counter migrant smuggling and human trafficking within its territory. Egypt was one of the first countries in the region to adopt a law in 2016 that criminalizes the smuggling of migrants. This law



according to statistics by IOM, the number of migrants in Egypt increased from 6 million in 2018 to 9 million in 2022, 16% of migrants interviewed by the organization, indicated that they came to Egypt as a country of transit to Europe, regularly or irregularly. Of course, we can imagine how this is reflected at our borders.

The government addresses migration issues from a comprehensive approach to ensure that our youth find opportunities at home, and that decision to migrate is taken out of choice not despair. Therefore, the Egypt Vision 2030 adopted by the government aims at creating job opportunities, alleviating poverty, improving socio-economic conditions for the most vulnerable segments.

was amended few months ago to impose tougher penalties if transnational networks committed the crime, or if the victims were children. Helplines and Referral Mechanisms were also created to support exploited victims, and the Government allocated a shelter to host vulnerable women and girls at-risk and Victims of Trafficking.

Moreover, given its location at a region that faces security challenges that impacted the capacity of some countries to control their borders, the Egyptian border, and coast guards exert enormous effort to combat transnational criminal networks involved in the smuggling of migrants. To be able to fulfil this role, constant training and capacity building is provided for all national authorities responsible for border management.

Here, it is worth noting that according to statistics by IOM, the number of migrants in Egypt increased from 6 million in 2018 to 9 million in 2022, 16% of migrants interviewed by the organization, indicated that they came to Egypt as a country of transit to Europe, regularly or irregularly. Of course, we can imagine how this is reflected at our borders.

Finding Solutions through Cooperation

I hope that common efforts of all countries will contribute to the enhancing national capacities, and support this excellent pool of experts who will be the key actors within their respective national institutions for the transmission of the knowledge acquired during the various sessions planned in the workshop.

I am confident that sharing knowledge and expertise between countries in our two regions will enrich the discussions and allow us to identify challenges and solutions to tackle this crime, as well as encourage future bilateral and regional cooperation. There is a big challenge to tackling this crime because the clandestine nature of smuggling of migrants means that investigations are usually only triggered when specific incidents come to the attention of authorities. However, it is also important to bear in mind that, given known typologies of migrant smuggling ventures, police and prosecutorial authorities might very well be in a position to identify suspicious patterns. Where identified, these may justify proactive measures. For instance, knowledge that the number of irregular migrants of a certain nationality, departing from a coastal State, has increased significantly is likely of interest to police, even if no vessels are intercepted transporting such migrants. In such a case, police may closely monitor sea traffic in identified routes/ areas, raise informal contacts with law enforcement in the country of origin or transit and continue to gather intelligence.

Investigations into smuggling of migrants pose numerous challenges. First and foremost, the "commodity" being smuggled are human beings. The preservation of life and safety of those involved (not only smuggled migrants) must be ensured (see Module 2). Furthermore, the transnational character of this crime means that part of the relevant evidence is likely to be found abroad. This means that cooperation between States is essential. However, States might be unable or unwilling to cooperate (see Module 11 of the University Module Series on Organized Crime). Other challenges include the reluctance of witnesses, who may fear retaliation, to testify against their smugglers and difficulties in adapting to changes in organized criminal groups' modus operandi (for example, use of Hawala payment systems rather than formal banking systems).

The Need for International Cooperation (The Case of Austria)



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For those familiar with the international agenda in migration, this statement made by Michael Spindelegger (Director General ICMPD) at the Vienna Migration Conference 2022 might sound rather affirmative than a wake-up call. For the European Union, this path already started before the war in the Ukraine, and even before the refugee crisis in 2015. It was in the Finnish town of Tampere, where 23 years ago the Member States came together and outlined the future for European migration and asylum policies. It was a time when Europe had just faced what was then the most significant refugee crisis since the Second World War. The Tampere conclusion adopted by the European Council in October 1999 stressed the need to stronger partnerships and cooperation with countries outside of the European Union in managing migration flows. Tampere was a clear statement that no nation can manage migration without international cooperation.

However, the progress on many commitments of the Tampere summit remained limited. This became evident in the years 2015 and 2016, where the European Union struggled to manage the largest influx of migrants since the breakup of Yugoslavia in the early 1990s.

The so-called refugee crisis 2015 put in question the system the European Union had built over the last twenty years. The years 2015 and 2015 showed Europe that we were not ready to address contemporary migratory challenges and demonstrate crisis-resilience, and that a lot of work remained to be done.

Between 5 September and 31 December 2015, almost 800,000 persons travelled to or through Austria via Hungary or Slovenia. On 27 August 2015, 71 corpses were discovered in a lorry in Parndorf/Burgenland after a smuggling operation from Hungary. This tragedy of human loss was received with an enormous echo in Austria: Civil society gathered together all over Austria to support the reception of refugees and migrants in a spirit of solidarity, at the same time it left the population devastated being eyewitnesses of a dysfunctional system.

In fact, in terms of criminal profit, no other year must have been more lucrative for facilitators than 2015. According to Europol, over one million migrants entered the European Union

As Egypt, Austria considers international cooperation in asylum issues of paramount importance.

illegally in 2015. About 90 per cent of these persons used the services offered by facilitators. Migrant smuggling networks are believed to have achieved a turnover between three and six million euros in 2015 – about as much as weapons or drug trafficking.

According to Europol, the migration business is the fastest growing business with the most significant growth since 2015 in Europe. Alliances are especially important in the combat against transnational organized crime, such as human smuggling or trafficking in persons.

In 2016, the Criminal Intelligence Service Austria (BK) opened a new Joint Operational Office (JOO) combating human smuggling and human trafficking in Vienna. The JOO serves as regional operational platform for international investigations into migrant smuggling organised crime groups. During critical investigation phases of an operation, the JOO aims to involve international investigators in order to work collaboratively on a case. Foreign investigators are being continuously deployed on an operational basis. The key factor had been the aforementioned case of 71 corpses found in a refrigerated lorry on the eastern motorway A4 near Parndorf/Burgenland in August 2015. This case demonstrated how important rapid international police co-operation is to clear up cases of that kind. Based on the longstanding co-operation with the Hungarian and Bulgarian authorities, the first arrest was made only a few hours after discovery of the dead bodies in the lorry. Three days later, six persons suspected on probable cause were already



One of the Workshops in the Conference



Lower Belvedere, Vienna where Khartoum Process takes place

in detention - one Bulgarian businessman and five Hungarian nationals. Europol was also involved in the investigations. The reason for establishing the new investigation office in Austria may as well have been Austria's strategic location and its experience in co-operating with the Balkan countries.

The legal basis for cross-border co-operation is the Police Co-operation Convention for South-Eastern Europe (PCC SEE). This multilateral agreement allows the Balkan states to co-operate with police forces from EU countries at operational level. The PCC SEE is the most important multilateral legal foundation for operational police co-operation with South-Eastern European countries in the fields of migration, organised crime, terrorism and extremism.

Seen as a supporting element of cross-border police cooperation the JOO has proved to be a success story in the area of migrant smuggling and trafficking of human beings and gave the abilities of Austria for international cooperation a substantial push.

International cooperation is not only a winning formula but a necessity fighting against a business that does not stop at borders.

The figures speak for themselves: Between the 24th and the 30th of October 2022 28 European countries joined forces to target drug and firearms trafficking, migrant smuggling, and trafficking in human beings. In the area of trafficking, 18.430 officers were involved, 254 persons arrested and 910 potential victims as well as 115 suspected traffickers identified. The two streams of activities were coordinated by Austria and Spain and included intensified checks on the EU's external borders as well as special operations.

So far, in 2022 Austria has received the most applications for asylum application per capita in the European Union after Cyprus. In addition, around 55.800 Ukrainian refugees, mostly women and children, are hosted in Austria with a temporary protection status.

On the 22nd and 23rd July 2020 at a Forum Salzburg Ministerial Conference the "Vienna Declaration on effectively combating irregular migration along the Eastern Mediterranean Route" was adopted and the "JCP" (= Joint Coordination Plattform) born.

The "Forum Salzburg" also plays an important role for Austria as it developed into the most important regional security partnership and is a significant platform for multilateral cooperation on issues of regional security matters, especially with Austria being significantly burdened by irregular migration along the Eastern Mediterranean Route passing through the Western Balkan countries.

According to its delicate mandate the JCP contributes to the improvement of operational cooperation in regional migration

One of the ways that the Republic of Austria has furthered international cooperation is by its active participation in migration dialogues such as the Khartoum and Rabat Processes. Regional processes provide a valuable forum to facilitate information sharing and an opportunity for closer engagement and cooperation between African and Europe.

management along four pillars: Asylum, Border Management, Return and the fight against smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings. The JCP started its activities on the 1st of January 2021 and swiftly established contacts with the European Commission, EU agencies, interested Member States, international organizations and partners in the Western Balkan region. By matching the (operational) needs of the Western Balkan countries with potential offers of donors and the situational analysis of new developments to ensure quick reactions, JCP has the potential to meet demands along the route as they arise. The experiences of JCP so far demonstrate, that the comprehensive approach also ensures resilience to external developments such as the pandemic or new conflict situations. Always – the intergovernmental cooperation as a core element in working with each other.

As Egypt, Austria considers international cooperation in asylum issues of paramount importance. Since its entry into force, Austria has faithfully honoured its commitments under the Geneva Refugee Convention as well as under the Global Compact on Refugees. Many of the ideals espoused in Tampere can also be found there. In line with the Global Compact on Refugees, one of the key objectives of which it is to ease the pressure on host countries, the Governmental Programme of Austria 2020 – 2024 foresees the strengthening of protection in the region, the reduction of root causes of irregular migration and the establishment of migration partnerships with relevant countries as key priorities.

Since the first Global Refugee Forum in December 2019, Austria has increased its financial contributions to UNHCR to more than 10 million euros in 2020 and more than 20 million euros in 2021, which is a record high for our country. With a

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number of around 160.000 persons, who have been granted international protection since 2015, Austria also itself remains among the European States hosting the highest per capita number of refugees. So far, in 2022 Austria has received the most applications for asylum application per capita in the European Union after Cyprus. In addition, around 55.800 Ukrainian refugees, mostly women and children, are hosted in Austria with a temporary protection status.

One of the ways that the Republic of Austria has furthered international cooperation is by its active participation in migration dialogues such as the Khartoum and Rabat Processes. Regional processes provide a valuable forum to facilitate information-sharing and an opportunity for closer engagement and cooperation between African and Europe. The strong contributions of Egypt, especially to the Khartoum Process, are highly appreciated.

As the introductory quote highlighted, we cannot always predict the challenges that will derive from migratory trends and conflict situations. However, the past demonstrates: If state turn more to each other to collaborate, when it is impossible to respond effectively on their own, it will maximize the potentials of migration while minimizing its challenges.



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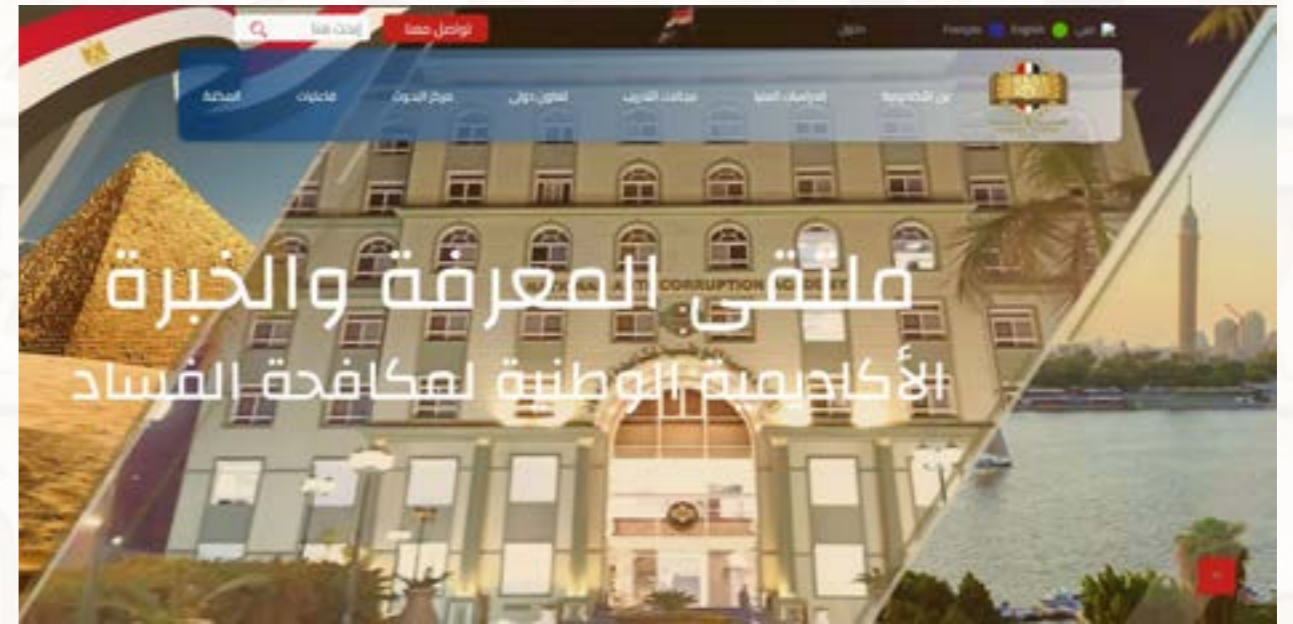
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