

## **The Ministry of Emigration's efforts in contacting Egyptians abroad**

**(1<sup>st</sup> of October - 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2022)**

The Forum for Development and Human Rights Dialogue (FDHRD) has gathered some cases that showcase the efforts of the Egyptian Ministry of Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates Affairs (MOEEA) to achieve better contact with Egyptians abroad and better respond to their needs and issues from 1<sup>st</sup> of October to 31<sup>st</sup> of December. Those efforts are as follows:

- In October 2022 the ambassador Soha Gendi held a meeting with the advisor Mohammad Abdelwahab, the executive president of the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI) within the framework of the stock company for Egyptian expatriates and an investment fund in order to:
  1. Discuss feasibility studies for the suggested projects introduced by Dr. Hassan El Garrahy, which could be the first projects to be offered for investment, within the framework of the joint stock company for Egyptians abroad.
  2. Choose a number of other projects that attract investment.
  3. Provide a wide range of incentives that suit all segments of Egyptians abroad, according to their different interests and needs, including business men, and Egyptian investors abroad. This is to attract them to invest in Egypt and take

advantage of available investment opportunities. The ambassador also confirmed that the announced facilitations and incentives related to education, national banks and aviation will be followed by the announcement of a new number of important incentives for Egyptians abroad in various fields.

- In October 2022, the Minister of Emigration announced real estate financing offers of up to 5 million pounds for Egyptians in the UAE in cooperation with Banque Misr to finance the purchase of units ready for delivery from one to 15 years through branches owned by the Bank abroad ". It also announced the availability of this offer in other countries as well as those with no Banque Misr branches. The documents will be through the customer's bank and authenticated through the embassy.
- In October 2022, Ambassador Soha Gendi received Ambassador Michele Quaroni, Ambassador of Italy to Egypt. They agreed on a proposal to study an Egyptian-Italian program in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration, taking into account Italian companies operating in Egypt. This is to train, qualify and strengthen Egyptian youth who are most exposed to the risks of illegal immigration.
- In October 2022, the Ministry of Emigration was monitored alerting Egyptians continuing to stay inside Ukrainian territory that they need to update their data quickly at the Egyptian Embassy in Kiev. This is to enable it communicate with them, make sure they are well and provide them with support, as well as to inform

them of any future information about the latest developments, given the aftermath of the Russian-Ukrainian war events.

The Ministry of Emigration also called on Egyptians who remain inside Ukraine to leave as soon as possible via the roads available with the countries of the western neighboring countries (of Ukraine), in order to ensure the security and safety of all Egyptian citizens there.

- In October 2022, the Ministry of Emigration, in coordination with the Egyptian Embassy in Cyprus, repatriated the three Egyptian sailors who were on board one of the broken-down vessels of one of the companies on the Cyprus coast, after resolving their complaint of a financial dispute with the company they were working for.

As a result of negotiation with the company where they worked, the company incurred the costs of airline tickets for their return to Egypt. The agreement was implemented and the financial dispute between the Egyptians and their employer was resolved.

- In October 2022, it was agreed with the Minister of Civil Aviation about discounts through EgyptAir for the families of Egyptians abroad, which last for about 216 days a year, a 25% discount of the wife's ticket, as well as a 33% discount in tickets for 2 children up to the age of 16. This is in addition to special offers for Egyptian students studying in China, whose tickets have been reduced by about 35%, as well as the availability of discounts for Egyptian students studying in the People's

Republic of China up to 20% reduction from the ticket price announced by EgyptAir.

- In November 2022, an agreement was announced with the government that occupied many Egyptians abroad, which is to bring their own cars to Egypt. The conditions for bringing cars belonging to Egyptians abroad were announced.
- In November 2022, coordination was made with the Ministry of Housing to provide facilities to Egyptians abroad in the real estate sector, which was among the requests of Egyptians abroad.
- In November 2022, a meeting was organized between Ambassador Soha Gendi, the Minister of Emigration, and 50 members of the Egyptian community in the Central, Western and Southern states of United States of America through the application of "Zoom", as part of the "Hour with the Minister" initiative, in the presence of Ambassador Amr Abbas Assistant Minister for Community Affairs.
- In November 2022, Ambassador Soha Gendi, Minister of Emigration, during her visit to the UAE, met Dr. Abdulrahman Abdulmannan Al Awar, Minister of Human Resources & Emiratisation, to discuss aspects of cooperation regarding Egyptian workers abroad. Some cases were referred to for Egyptians on the enforcement of sentences in favor of employees, and the judgment is not implemented. He emphasized that he would personally ensure that the law was enforced he stressed that the new system will place a lot of worker protection obligations on insurance companies. The government will monitor any breach of its implementation of its obligations with regard to workers. If it breaches the executive framework, legal

action will be taken against it, so as not to harm the worker. The minister also added the bodies shipping file, which at times witnesses the employer's failure to cover the costs of transporting the bodies of the workers. The Emirati Minister of Human Resources explained that this file is also currently covered by insurance and the electronic system will ensure direct payment, after which the settlement will be made with the employer then settlement with the employer.

- In December 2022, the Minister of Emigration participated in the workshop of the African Migration Observatory in Rabat (AMO), organized by Ambassador Dr. Namira Negm, Director of AMO- affiliated with the African Union- in conjunction with International Migrants Day. This is with the aim of developing a strategy for the census of emigrants, namely the establishment of a unified database of African states to count the number of emigrants in Africa.
- In December 2022, the moving to Germany Conference "Capacity Needs Assessment" within "Towards a Holistic Approach to Labour Migration Governance and Labour Mobility in North Africa", organized under the auspices of the Ministry and in cooperation with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). It was held in conjunction with the celebration of International Migrants Day.
- In December 2022, the Ministry of Emigration organized a tour for Egyptian children from Canada to visit the villages of "Hayah Karima" in Al-Qalyubiyya, where they donated 1.2 million pounds to the "Hayah Karima" initiative.

- In December 2022, the UAE Labour Representative Office announced the unemployment insurance scheme, which opens registration from the beginning of next year 2023. This is an important decision benefiting all citizens working in the government or private sector, whether they are citizens or workers in the country, including Egyptian workers.
- In December 2022, the 49th edition of Annual International Conference for the Association of Egyptian-American Scholars (AEAS), Ain Shams University, was organized with the participation of 25 of Egypt's leading scientists in America and Canada. Reference was made to the Egyptian state is working towards benefiting from the minds of our migrants' minds abroad and to integrate their expertise and experiences within Egypt's 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy.
- In December 2022, a number of meetings were held with all officials of the investment agencies in Egypt, as well as a large group of Egyptian investors abroad. The Minister of Emigration confirmed the establishment of a company for the investments of Egyptians abroad. One of the Minister's assistants was assigned the economic file of this company.