

**In the framework of the Egyptian delegation's participation in the
Arab German Forum**

**positive results achieved as well as a tangible economic impact
on supporting Egyptian German relations**

Despite the fact that the Arab German Economic Forum, which we attended in Berlin, was held for basically economic purposes to enhance investment and joint cooperation between Germany and the Arab countries, the issue of combating terrorism and its negative impact on the international arena was on the top of the main issues tackled in this conference.

The participants called for not making terrorism an obstacle against the efforts for development and growth. The Egyptian delegation was headed by the Minister of Trade and Industry, Eng. Rashid Mohamed Rashid, involving a large number of officials and businessmen.

The Egyptian delegation attended the eighth round and participated in the various talks and deliberations that enriched it. On his side, Minister Rashid emphasized that Egypt continues its efforts to improve the economic climate and the investment environment in order to serve its economic strategy of enhancing Egyptian productivity and competitiveness and attract more investments to Egypt.

The Minister emphasized the importance of enhancing economic relations between Egypt and Germany, pointing that Germany can make a great use of the positive recent developments in Egypt and the economic advantages provided by this country, on top of which the customs exemptions for the Egyptian origin products exported to the Arab and COMESA markets as well as

the American ones. He pointed that this could attract more Arab and German companies to invest in Egypt and use this country as a gate to export to these markets.

Dr. Nader Riad, the Head of the Egyptian side in the Egyptian German Business Council, said that choosing Egypt to be the guest of honor and the principle country in the activities of this Forum would open a new chapter for the Egyptian German relations, pointing that there has been a very positive meeting between the Egyptian business side and the German one, tackling many issues that would lead to a breakthrough in the economic and industrial relations.

He also said that the meeting of the Egyptian German Business Council with the Egyptian and German Ministers of Economy was very positive, as the two Ministers reflect new lines of thought for extraordinary ministers who represent two entities that have very strong relations with each other, and reflecting a trend towards the future to cope with the fast movement of global trade.

Dr. Ashraf Mansour, the Head of Board of Trustees of the German University in Egypt, said that the Forum also tackled the role of the German University and how it can play a role in enhancing scientific, artistic and technical cooperation between Egypt and Germany.

Dr. Mansour pointed that the German University in Egypt is aiming at graduating students who have the capability and efficiently to deal with the ever-changing global society, based on practical training and vast experience in the various fields of industry and other business activities.

He said that the work team of the graduates and that of the education is the main principle of the GUC (German University in Cairo).

He pointed that working for having graduates of excellent generations that would work inside Egypt and abroad would help in providing new strains of leaders in all fields.

The Head of the Board of Trustees of the University said that the main goal of his university is to serve the community by means of developing the human resources and enhancing the skills of students and graduates.

He said that we are also keen to have research and development as well as innovation centers, just like any other advanced country.

He said that Egypt is not away from such progress, and that there is a plan of expansions that the German University is implementing that would enhance scientific research and development, and develop the modernization and research centers.

Dr. Mansour also said that by means of doing so, the GUC would provide cadres and specialists capable of dealing with the various variables and interacting with the challenges and opportunities of globalization.