

“Tertiary National Seminar on Employment Policy in Egypt”

FEDERATION OF EGYPTIAN INDUSTRIES

H.E. Ahmed Ahmed al-Amawi

Minister of Manpower & Immigration

Excellency,

With reference to your letter, concerning holding the “Tertiary National Seminar” on the employment policy in Egypt next **October 12 & 13**, and your invitation extended to me to preside the fourth work session that is to discuss the issue of an “organizational framework appropriate for creating job opportunities in small & medium institutions”, which is to be held on Wednesday October 13, 2004 at 12:00 noon;

First, I would like to thank Your Excellency for your efforts in organizing such a vital seminar and I am honoured to nominate Dr. Nader Riad to chair the above-mentioned session.

Accept my sincerest wishes for a successful seminar.

Best Regards,

Galal al-Zorba
Chairman

Date: 27/9/2004

cc.: Dr. Ibrahim Awad – Director of ILO North African Bureau in Cairo
Dr. Nader Riad – Board Member of Chamber of Engineering Industries &
Member of Small Industry Committee at the Federation

*Dr. Eng.
Nader Riad*

**ILO
International Labour Organization
North African Bureau in Cairo**

**Ministry of Manpower
& Immigration**

Under the Auspices of PM Dr. Ahmed Nazif

“Tertiary National Seminar on Employment Policy in Egypt”

**Ahmed Ahmed al-Amawi
Minister of Manpower & Immigration**

&

**Ibrahim Awad
Director of ILO North African Bureau**

have the honour of inviting you to attend the seminar to be held on October 12 & 13, 2004 at Cairo Gezira Sheraton Hotel, according to the enclosed programme.

The inaugural session is to be held at 10:00 hr on Tuesday - October 12, 2004. Enclosed herein is a memo with a review of the employment policy in Egypt launched in the first half of 2003, after preparations made by the ILO mission, which visited Cairo in October 2002.

ILO

Ministry of Manpower

International Labour Organization

& Immigration

North African Bureau in Cairo

Under the Auspices of PM Dr. Ahmed Nazif

“Tertiary National Seminar on Employment Policy in Egypt”

**October 12 – 13, 2004
Cairo Gezira Sheraton
(Samar Hall)**

Proposed Programme

Tuesday – October 12, 2004

09:30 – 10:00

Registration

10:00 – 11:00

Inaugural session

Chairman: Mr. Ahmed al-Amawi – Minister of Manpower & Immigration

Speech of Dr. Ibrahim Awad – Director of ILO North African Bureau in Cairo

Speech of Michael Enricas – Employment Department – ILO – Geneva

Speech of Mr. Ahmed Ahmed al-Amawi – Minister of Manpower & Immigration

Speech of PM Dr. Ahmed Nazif delivered on his behalf by Dr. Essam Sharaf –
Minister of Transportation

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 – 13:30

1st work session

**Formulating an Incentive Setup Encouraging Higher Employment
Levels & Better Productivity**

Chairman: Dr. Mahmoud Mohie Eddine – Minister of Investment (not yet confirmed)

- Presentation: “Study of Employment Policy in Egypt: Review of Operation”
Dr. Rachid Amjad – ILO – Geneva
- Presentation: “Labour Market & Overall Economic Context: Policies & Incentives for Higher Employment Levels in Egypt”
Dr. Naglaa al-Ahwani
- Commentator

Discussion

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:30

2nd work session

Employment & International Trade

Chairman:

- Presentation: “Adapting Small & Medium Enterprises to Repercussions of Trade Liberation”

Dr. Lobna Abdel Latif
- Presentation: “Towards Achievement of Two Objectives: Encouraging Exports & Creating Job Opportunities: Case Study of Egypt”

Dr. Ahmed Ghoneim
- Commentator

Discussion

Wednesday – October 13, 2004

09:30 – 11:30 3rd work session

Employment Challenges & Work Requisites in Unorganized Economy

Chairman: Dr. Osman Mohamed Osman – Minister of Planning

- Presentation: “Incentive Setup Encouraging Higher Employment Levels & Better Productivity in Unorganized Economy”
Dr. Soad Kamel
- Presentation: “Employment & Work Conditions in Unorganized Sector: Survey of Tanning Industry”
Dr. Fatma al-Zanati
- Commentator

Discussion

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 13:30 4th work session

Employment in Small & Medium Enterprises: Organizational Framework

Chairman: Dr. Nader Riad – Egyptian Federation of Industries

- Presentation: “Employment in Small & Medium Institutions: Organizational Framework”
Dr. Alia al-Mahdi & Mr. Martin Clemenson – ILO – Geneva
- Commentator: Dr. Michael Enricas – ILO – Geneva

Discussion

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 16:30 5th work session
Labour Market Policies

Chairman: Dr. El Sayed Rashed – Head of General Egyptian Trades Union Federation (not yet confirmed)

- Presentation: “Egypt: Assessment of Two Elements of Components of National Programme for Youth Employment
- Presentation: “Towards Equilibrium between Flexibility & Employment in Labour Market”
- Presentation: “Guidebook for Assessment of Labour Market Policies”
Dr. Elena Nesporova & Ms. Marina Sabrina de Gobi – ILO – Geneva
- Commentator:

Discussion

16:30 – 17:30 Coffee break

17:30 – 18:30 Closing session

Chairman: Mr. Ahmed al-Amawi – Minister of Manpower & Immigration

Presentation: “Conclusions & Proposed Elements for Employment Policy”

Discussion

Closing Speech: Mr. Ahmed al-Amawi – Minister of Manpower & Immigration

International Labour Organization [ILO]

North African Bureau in Cairo

Memo

on

Tertiary National Seminar on Employment Policy in Egypt

Cairo – October 12 & 13, 2004

In October 2002, an ILO mission visited Cairo, with the aim of comprehensively reviewing the employment policy in Egypt. The visit was organized in close coordination with Minister of Manpower & Immigration Mr. Ahmed al-Amawi and his ministry.

On this occasion, all ministers concerned with the overall economy policies and sector policies, together with senior officials and academicians, met with the mission, in order to exchange viewpoints on the employment policy.

At the end of the visit, the mission came up with a memo designing the broad lines of the approach to be adopted in the process of reviewing the employment policy.

At the outset of 2003, the ILO embarked on implementing this review, where it enjoyed the kind assistance of prominent Egyptian academicians. Several studies were launched, in which aspects of the employment policy were tackled at the overall & sector level, as well as the labour market level.

Research topics covered the formulation of an incentive structure for encouraging higher employment levels and better productivity; encouragement of exports to raise employment levels; repercussions of liberating trade on employment in small and medium institutions; work requisites in an unorganized economy; appropriate organizational framework for creating job opportunities in small and medium institutions; assessment of two components within the youth employment programme; in addition to preparing the first book in Arabic on labour market active policies.

The Tertiary National Seminar on Employment Policy in Egypt will convene on October 12 & 13, 2004, in order to discuss the outcomes of researches carried out by Egyptian academicians, under the auspices of the ILO.

The Tertiary National Seminar includes government representatives, social associates and academicians, in addition to a number of public figures concerned.

The main objective of the seminar is to furnish policy-makers with useful elements in formulating the employment policy, capable of creating productive job opportunities and raising the level of productivity, while curbing poverty.

Also, discussions and conclusions of the seminar might hopefully contribute to the formulation of a national work plan for youth employment, as expected from Egypt to be submitted to the UN, together with other Member States of the ILO.

It is worth mentioning that Egypt is one of the eight leading countries within the youth employment network sponsored by the UN, ILO & World Bank.

Furthermore, the seminar is expected to define a number of new domains that call for research on appropriate procedures for the employment policy. During the first phase that lasted for the past eighteen months, focus was primarily made on the aspect of employment demands, where the next phase could tackle the aspect of supply.

Another vital issue that deserves a great deal of concern is employment in the agricultural field and in rural areas.