

CEEBA

The Confederation of Egyptian European Business Associations



الجمعية البريطانية المصرية للأعمال
British Egyptian
Business Association



جمعية الأعمال المصرية الفرنسية
Club d'Affaires Franco-
Egyptien



CAMERA DI COMMERCIO ITALIANA
PER L'EGITTO
(Italian Chamber of Commerce In Egypt)



الغرفة الألمانية العربية للصناعة والتجارة
German-Arab Chamber of
Industry and Commerce

Standards and Specifications

A Trade & Investment Barrier or an Enhancement Tool?

Cairo, 20th of September 2004, Nile Hilton Hotel

Under the auspices of

H.E. Dr. Ahmed Nazif
Prime Minister of Egypt

- 09:00 - 09:30** **Registration**
- 09:30 - 10:30** **Welcome Addresses**
Moderator: Dr. Alaa Ezz, Secretary General, CEEBA
Mr. Mohamed Nosseir, CEEBA Chairman
H.E. Oliver Nette, Acting Ambassador, Head of EC Delegation
H.E. Tjeerd Feico de Zwaan, , Ambassador of the Netherlands "EU Presidency"
H.E. Dr. Ahmed Nazif, Prime Minister of Egypt
- 10:30 - 11:00** **Coffee Break and press encounter**
- 11:00 - 12:30** **Globalization of Standards & Specifications**
Chairman: H.E. Eng Rashid Mohamed, Minister of Industry & Trade
Moderator: Dr. Nader Riad, Chairman Bavaria Egypt
- *Global Direction for Standards & Specifications*, Mr. Reinhold Welina, DIN, Germany
 - *EU integration: tools, instruments and impact*, Mrs. Marjetka Strie Vidali, SIST, Slovenia
 - *Egyptian Standards: Strategy & Direction:* H.E. Dr. Amin Mubarak MP, chairman of Industry & Energy Committee, Egyptian parliament
 - *Bavaria, an Egyptian Case Study:* by the moderator
- 12:30 - 14:00** **A Tool for Trade & Investment Promotion & Consumer Protection**

- **Chairman:** H.E. Dr. Mahmoud Mohei Eldin, Minister of Investment
- **Moderator:** H.E. Dr. Hosam Badrawy MP, Chairman Education Committee, Egyptian Parliament and the Consumer Protection Association

- ***Impact on Trade & FDI, a potential barrier or potent enhancer***, Mr. Gonzolo Sotorrillo, AENOR, Spain *
- ***Inspection & Enforcement, instruments and trends***, EU Standards Committee
- ***Interjection***, Mr. Laith Dajani, BSI, UK
- ***SEKEM, an Egyptian Case Study***: Mr. Helmy Abouel Eish, CEO

14:00 - 15:30 **Lunch**

15:30 - 16:00 **Closing session & Recommendations**

Press Release

Prepared by the Secretariat of the Conference

CEEBA

The Confederation of Egyptian European Business Association

21, Soliman Abaza St. Mohandessin -Giza, Cairo, Egypt

Tel:002 3368 183 ext 521 Fax:0020 2 3368 786, 3368 026

All supervisory entities should be unified into one section; in addition to the establishment of a central lab to be internationally accredited, for approving specifications from all sectors.

Prime Minister, Dr. Ahmad Nazif, is to inaugurate on the coming Monday ,dated 20th September in Cairo the Conference of the Egyptian European Business Man Federation regarding the development of Standard Specifications as a mechanism for the development of exports and to attract investment.

Mohamed Noseir president of the council stated that, the- International Conference for the development of standard specifications - in its capacity as a "mechanism for the development of exports and the drawing of investment" Wherein the leaderships of the local governmental and private organisms related to specifications in Egypt and the European Countries , shall attend, besides the Egyptian and European business organizations, and heads of the important Industrial Companies, the ambassadors to the EU states and their donors.

He added, that the inauguration shall include Ministers concerned with specifications , these include , Minister of Foreign Trade, Minister of Industry, Minister of Investment, Minister of Finance, Minister of Information, Minister of Culture, Minister of Higher Education, Minister of Scientific Research, Minister of Labor, Minister of Population, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources, Minister of Local Development, Minister of Military Production, Minister of Internal Trade and Supply, Minister of Communication, Minister of Information Technology, Minister of Planning, Minister of Oil, Minister of International Cooperation, Minister of Electricity, Minister of Health, Minister of Environment, Minister of Transportation, Minister of Civil Aviation, Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Justice, Minister of Administrative Development, Minister of Tourism, besides the Ambassadors of the twenty five European States, and their donor organizations.

The leadership of the important international organizations confirmed their participation in the conference, such as the German DIN, and the British BS and the Slavonic Cyma , and Italian and Spanish Authorities .

Others include experts from the European Union 's twenty five states, in order to present their experience in the development and unification of their standard specifications , and to come up with the means for cooperation so as to sustain the Egyptian Organizations

Participating in the conference as well are the leaderships of Egyptian Business Associations , and the Egyptian institutions for specifications, and specialized committees in the People's Council and Shura Council , and the Egyptian specification specialists, and research councils, heads of Egyptian and European Companies, and Board of Directors of Business organizations which are the founders of the federation , being: the Egyptian German Chamber of

Commerce, The Egyptian French Chamber of Commerce , The Italian Egyptian Chamber of Commerce, and the British Egyptian Association.

Dr. Alaa Ezz, Secretary General of the Federation declared that the Conference aims at upgrading the level of the Egyptian Standard Specifications , in order to develop exportation and to attract investment , and to modernize the Industry, services, and to protect consumers , since the conference shall lay down the experiences of developed countries , and the countries who have recently joined the EU.

The experience shall relate the mechanisms and time frames for upgrading the specifications, and using them as development mechanisms for exports and the drawing of investment, protecting consumers, the national industry and the modernization of the state as a whole.

He went on to say, that the conference shall discuss the possibility of unifying the supervisory bodies, and the establishment of a central lab which is to be internationally accredited , whose function is to approve the specifications for all sectors in order to lower expenses and time necessary for approval ;this shall be submitted to the European donor organization , all the while providing technical help to the participation specification organism.

The Confederation of Egyptian European Business Association

21, Soliman Abaza St. Mohandessin -Giza, Cairo, Egypt

Tel:002 3368 183 ext 521 Fax:0020 2 3368 786, 3368 026

He said the conference shall convene for two sessions, the first relates to the proceeding of the specifications on the regional and international aspects, to

be presided by Engineer Rashid Mohamed Rashid, Minister of Industry and Foreign Trade; to be conducted by Engineer Nader Riad, deputy Chairman of the Arab German Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Nader Riad shall make a presentation showing how his exports doubled after his application of the higher specifications. During this session some of the European Leaderships shall intervene introducing the mechanisms implemented so as to upgrade specifications, their accreditation, the help provided by their companies in the application.

The second session shall discuss the principle of whether specifications represent the mechanism for developing exports and attracting investment, or if it is a new non taxable obstacle .

The session shall be presided by Dr. Mahmoud Mohi El Dine Minister of Investment, which is to be conducted by Dr.Hossam Badrawi , Chief of the Education Committee in the People's Council, and the responsible for the Egyptian Patent Law , also president of Consumer Protection Organization .

Dr. Badrawi shall present the use of specifications as a mechanism not only for consumer protection , but also for the protection of national industry from cheap and scrap imports , besides opening new horizons for exports, during this session shall participate leaderships from European organizations detailing their experience in this field.

Dr. Peter Gobveritch, executive president of the Arab German Chamber of Commerce, added that this conference is one the new Federation activities , and is considered as a practical step for the activation of the Egyptian European Partnership.

The signing of the agreement, and its establishment between the Egyptian Italian Chamber, and the Egyptian German Chamber , and the British Egyptian Business Association , and the French Egyptian Business Association , and including all the Egyptian and European Business Association, with the aim of functioning on the level of the Euro Egyptian Cooperation in general and totality, this step is regarded as a huge forward leap in the history of the Euro-Egyptian economic relations.

The Union starts with more than five thousand members from among the most important founders , and who

The Confederation of Egyptian European Business Association

have been working in Egypt for more than half a century, and whose expertise and technical and administrative know how together with their excellent relations with business associations and European AID Organizations , shall serve to push forward the wheels of conjoint cooperation to obtain maximum benefit.

Mahmoud Al Keissi, President of the French Egyptian Association declared that the federal system is the best that has been proposed during the discussions that lasted for more than six months, and during which all business associations participated. In addition to meetings with the EU presidency, and the European Commission, and Ambassadors of European Countries. This system shall eventually the increase in cooperation together with the respect of the total independence of the present institutions.

Adding, he said ,this important step was reached by the realization of the drastic need for a strong non governmental organization at the Euro-Egyptian

level. Particularly, in the presence of this number of business associations , and strong conjoint chambers of commerce, all the while , having a lack as to coordination mechanism between them. To create bridges for cooperation with the organizations and European Union Bodies.

To add is also a lack in the availability of specialized labor organizations so as to activate relationships between Egypt and a big number from among the Twenty Five State members of the European Union, and who do not have conjoint chambers of commerce.

Philippi Cordno, President of the Egyptian Italian Chamber of Commerce stated that the new Confederation targets the opening of a conjoint Euro Egyptian dialogue at the level of developing cooperation between the Egyptian Business Associations for the purpose of the unification of European Cooperation.

Besides, increasing the usefulness from the European Partnership, and the preparation of the Euro-Mediterranean free Trade Region in the year 2010.It also aims at to speed up the modernization and technology transfer, and methods of modern management, and to promote investment, development of Egyptian exports to the Euro European markets..

He said, the federation shall play the role of a bilateral conjoint chamber for the member countries of the European Union , which do not have such

Chambers .The federation shall provide a number of services through the founding organizations, besides implementing a number o European programs in particular those considered as decentralized from among them.

The activities of the new Federation include the support of the Euro Egyptian dialogue, and the invitation to vouch opinions in the important issues. This is to be achieved by means of technical reports, organizing conferences, workshops, and symposiums, besides possibility to vouch opinions to the European delegation, and delegations of member countries .

The Union shall see to it that the principle source for Euro Egyptian information .Besides being the coordinator of numerous common Euro Egyptian Programs for European members who do not have official chambers.

Nosseir, proceeded saying, that this Conference is the seventh activity of the Federation during four months since its establishment. Presently, a similar entity is being established in Alexandria so a to serve the business community therein.