



ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR WOMEN

NATIONAL REPORT ON BEIJING +20

Introduction

Egypt has exerted great efforts to enhance the status of the Egyptian women through implementing a series of actions aimed at enabling and empowering them politically, economically and in social areas. These actions included the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, in addition to implementing the necessary legislative reforms that serves this objective, as well as taking actions aimed at changing the biased societal values and concepts that have negative implications on women and their role as an active player in the development of the nation. In that, the State believes that global development cannot be achieved without the active participation of women who practically constitute half of the society, accordingly the State adopts policies that strengthen their economic, social, cultural and political participation in all its forms.

It should be noted that the Egyptian society has endured diverse political changes during the last three years, beginning with the revolution of January 2011, followed by the freedom and Justice Party (the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood) rule, during which the country suffered from extreme religious fundamentalism, the highlights of which was the hindrance of the hard earned rights of different social groups, most of all, that of women. It is noteworthy that women have effectively participated in the revolution of January 2011 calling for dignity, freedom and social justice, as an active part of the Egyptian society, women stood in Tahrir square, denouncing corruption and oppression and injustice and had equally endured the same painful blows to the nation.

It is remarkable that as soon as the Muslim brotherhood succeeded in taking power, they adamantly directed the revolution towards the opposite stride through attempting to implement a series of discriminatory practices against women aiming at their marginalization and exclusion, and through their frantic attempts to change legislations relevant to women, such as lowering the marriage age for girls as well as the age of the mother's custody of her children upon divorce and attempted to restrict their right to divorce themselves, and the legalization of female genital mutilation (Circumcision) , as well as their deliberate exclusion from participation in political and public life albeit women being a key partner in the Egyptian revolution.

Despite the efforts of the National Council of women and its civil society partners and reformist thinkers, the Constitution of 2012 issued by, and during the rule of the Muslim Brotherhood was a disappointment to the aspirations of the Egyptians, a matter that urged them -after they had broken the barriers of fear, class and gender

- to revolt once more in June 30, 2013, demanding the very same constitutional changes they had revolted for in the first place two years ago. The 30th of June was truly a massive revolution that included people from all segments of the Egyptian society.

Accordingly, and according to the approved road map, a commission of 50 for drafting the amendment to the Constitution (2013) was formed, where The National Council for women was highly represented and had actively participated in the process.

This report reflects the information provided by the competent governmental agencies in Egypt as well as a number of non-governmental organizations in the country, and focuses on the efforts made to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for action of 1995.

Part I

Egypt's major achievements in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women since the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for action, 1995.

Introduction

The period of time specified in this part of the report (1995-2014) witnessed many accomplishments that are aimed at achieving gender equality in all areas, most notably the establishment of the National Council for women by presidential decree in the year 2000 as a national mechanism that falls directly under the supervision of the President of the Republic, where by the Council proposes public policies for women's advancement and set plans for their implementation, monitoring and evaluation with a view on women's development and empowerment in the social, economic and political fields. This act from behalf of the presidency can be considered as an expression of a political will that stood and understood women's issues and worked to solve their problems through a succession of 'General Guidance' to the State institutions, which have been translated into policies, programmes and legislations and decisions that have all contributed to the expansion of the participation of women in all areas to improve their situations and foster their advancement, despite the fact that political instability and security over

the past three years may have shadowed and regressed the achievements that women have been looking forward to.

The high level of education among women and their increasing interest in public affairs and the advancement of themselves and their families significantly contributed to the progress, expressed in the high turnout on the opportunities that were made available to them from work and education and training, promoting and engaging in public political and community participation, a matter which led to a significant presence of women in all areas, less the positions of Governor and Vice President and Prime Minister, though women had come very close to that after the appointment of several women as Deputy Governor in several provinces.

Parliamentary representation however, remains the weakest point reaching only 2% in the last Parliament of 2012.

Proposal for a national plan for economic and social development:

- The National Council for women with the support of the United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA developed a method of planning of national plans for social and economic development to include women and the introduction of the concept of gender in the fifth NESDP (2002-2007) that led to double the funds allocated to programmes and projects for the improvement and advancement of women, and the sixth NESDP (2007-2012) which resulted in the introduction of the concept of decentralization and participatory gender-responsive planning and successful integration of women in all areas from the village level and district level to the Centre and the city and County levels. Finally, the seventh plan (2012-201) is in process.
- The introduction of the concept of gender responsive State budgets was quite helpful in changing the follow-up and evaluation concepts to a more gender responsive planning based concepts.
- The development of new non-conventional indicators for measuring gender equality in areas of work, health, education and political rights. Moreover, any transfers of allocations made to women's projects in favor of any other project are prohibited.

Qualifying Women for Political participation:

The National Council for women exhorts much effort towards women's development in the field of political participation through a number of political initiatives, including:

- The Creation of "The Political Qualification Center for Women" that had worked for about three years, during which several political development programmes were implemented for women in order to encourage them to engage in political action through the sensitization programmes for women's political rights.
- The implementation of group training (theoretical and practical) to support the capacity of women to participate in political life.
- The Council launched the initiative "Know your Candidate" and "Women Voters" and the "Managing election campaigns of candidates for the House of representatives" and "know your Constitution, choose your Candidate" among several other initiatives, which contributed mainly to encourage women to participate in elections and referendums, which came to pass in the country during the current period.

The above efforts are integrated with those of the Ministry of Interior and The Electoral Commission in order to facilitate women's suffrage and secure electoral commissions for them.

These efforts resulted in the increase of the proportion of women enrolled in the electoral tables amounting to more than 48% of the total enrolment of over 23 million voters in 2012. It is noteworthy that particularly in the period following the 25th of January 2011 the polling witnessed an unprecedented turnout for voting in general, and an increase in the sense of Egyptian nationalism. As far as women candidates are concerned, their numbers maintained low rates, were only 122 candidates in the parliamentary elections in 2000 and 2005 presented themselves, while in the following elections, and due to the first amendment law of the people's Assembly in 2010 by allocating 64 seats for women, a marginal increase of up to 387 out of 5033 candidates were enlisted. However, the number of women candidates in the parliamentary elections of 2012 reached a total of 984 out of 8113 candidates.

Unprecedented Presidential decisions:

the first presidential decree In 2003 appointed the first woman as Vice President of the Supreme Constitutional Court, and in 2007 another presidential Decree set the 30 women applicants were promoted to judges out of the 124 women members of the administrative bodies of the State who applied for this job, furthermore, a third resolution in 2008 appointed 12 more women judges bringing the number of women judges in the country to 42 judge, it is noteworthy that the percentage of women working in the administrative prosecution authority reached 42% versus 58% for male in 2012.

Although Egyptian women judges demonstrated high efficiency in their work, a matter that is manifested in them holding top position such as the Vice President of the Supreme Constitutional Court, heads of departments in the ordinary and in specialized courts, the proportion of women in the higher judiciary positions did not exceed 0.4% versus 99.6% for men in 2012, in fact, the door is still closed for women's access to Judicial positions at the State Council, which General Assembly in turn had issued in 2005 a decision to reject admission of women in their ranks, consequently women applications as associate and Assistant - the first steps in the State Council- were rejected. Women are also still prevented from applying as prosecutor so far.

Combating violence against women:

The National Council for women has launched an integrated a multi dimensional project to deal with the phenomenon of violence against women in collaboration with the ministries of the Interior and justice and other official and civil institutions:

- The Signing of a cooperation protocol with the Ministry of the Interior to create a unit to combat violence against women "followed by branches in the security departments and police stations in provinces including scientifically qualified women and men officers who are to receive the complaints of violence against women, follow-up and communications as well as provide assistance to the victims in question.
- Under the Protocol of cooperation with the National Council for women the Ministry of Justice established a unit for the protection of

women from violence through reviewing of legislation on violence against women and making the necessary legislative proposals in addition to establish training courses, seminars and workshops for workers in the field of combating violence against women.

- In 2011, the National Council for women has prepared a draft law to protect women from all forms of violence and is expected to be released with the first elected Parliament. It should be noted that some of the material has been modified for the crimes of rape and the corruption of morals including tightening sanctions, but these are still not sufficient to address all manifestations of violence against women.
- In 2007 the prime minister issued a decision to form a national coordinating committee to combat trafficking in humans, especially women and children. This competent committee is to examine the phenomenon of trafficking in women and the dimensions of this phenomenon and review all pertaining national legislation and propose policies and programmes and come up with a plan of action to address this phenomenon. The committee so far has succeeded in obtaining a law against trafficking in women and children and prepared a project in cooperation with other concerned institutions in that field. The committee also carried out- within the framework of its annual work plans, a number of training programmes and workshops to raise the efficiency of the workers in the media, the judiciary and the public prosecutor's office and the institutions of the police and the army in the areas of arrest, investigation and prosecution protection and litigation, the committee shall also prepare an annual report on the state's efforts to combat trafficking in humans and the extent of progress made in this regard.

The Ombudsman's Office and follow-up:

In seeking to remove all forms of discrimination against women, the National Council for women established in 2002 an office to receive women's complaints and their follow-up "Ombudsman Office" at its central level, it also established a branch in each of the governorates of Egypt. The Office is the official channel which allows any Egyptian woman to report any discriminatory practice through the dial-up office or

through personal interviews or e-mail or regular mail. The Office employs a group of lawyers, unlike a number of other provincial volunteer attorneys provide legal consultation for each communication and provide assistance to complainants to take legal action, the Office issues a number of periodic studies and statistics on the most important problems affecting women. The Office also analysis the content of each complaint and classifies them for submission as public cases to the appropriate decision-makers. The Bureau has adopted a plan to raise women's awareness on their legal rights.

Equal opportunity units:

In response to a proposal made by the National Council for women, Equal Opportunity Units were created within the different ministries in Egypt. These offices directly follow the ministers' office and their main function is to focus on the constitutional equality between men and women at the workplace and address any discriminatory employment practices against women, and provide legal awareness programmes and support the rights of working women and help them get the necessary training and promotion opportunities. The Equal Opportunities Unit at the Ministry of finance, in cooperation with the National Council for women, work on spreading the concept of gender responsive budgeting in collaboration with the United Nations Fund for women (UNIFEM), and among the workers of the Ministry of Finance and the officials responsible for preparing the draft of the state budget.

Women's Skills Development Center:

In 2001 The National Council for women established the "Women's Skills Development Centre" in 16 of the 27 Governorates of Egypt, and is working on establishing branches in the rest of the Governorates across the country. The Centre aims at empowering women economically and reducing their unemployment by providing the ones interested in joining the labor market by the necessary skills and encourages them to venture into small and micro projects. The Centre also includes a section for training electronically through the website:www.afkargadida.com, and another website dedicated to e-marketing: www.cleostore.com. It must be mentioned that within a relatively short period, the Centre had succeeded in attracting a large number of small business women owners, who managed to expand and develop their businesses through this site, and are now successfully exporting their products abroad, via a cooperation protocol between the Council and the

National postal service which handles the delivery of these products to prospect online buyers at low cost.

The National I.D. Number:

The National Council for Women Launched 'The National ID Program' which aims to help and support all women who are not carrying any identification card. NCW launched this program in collaboration with the Ministries of Local Development, Interior and Health, as well as members of the civil society, business and concerned development partners of the international community. The program succeeded in issuing nearly three million national ID cards so far. One major result of this plan was to unify all corporate efforts to overcome the biggest obstacle facing women as they attempt to obtain a national ID, which is the lack of a birth certificate. The project thus allowed deprived women to take advantage of all the services provided by government institutions and non-governmental organizations.

Women who benefited from the project by finally acquiring their National ID Number were now able to assume their citizen's right in casting their ballot during elections, as well as apply for loans to set up small businesses and take advantage of the social safety nets provided by the state.

Addressing the Legacy of Cultural Misconceptions:

The national efforts together with the commitment of the Egyptian Government to eliminate negative cultures and social traditions that discriminate against women in the society never stopped. Several bodies exhort intensive efforts in this regard, among which are the educational, religious and media institutions. In turn, the National Council of women, in collaboration with the Ministry of education reviews the educational curriculum, with an eye on particular concepts relating to the role of women as well as the Ministry's plan for teacher training. The Council is also Communicates directly with the Ministry of Endowments and the heads of the Christian denominations to work on clarifying the enlightened vision of Islam and Christianity on women and report any irregularities or negative messages about women and their role in society by some who tend to exploit mosques or educational classes or any public gathering and cultural meeting they can approach.

Targeted Media message:

In attempt to develop a positive targeted media message that aims at enhancing the image of women in the society, NCW held several meetings and seminars with Press and media personalities, authors and drama writers and leaders of public opinion urging them to stress upon the importance of combating passive cultural perceptions on women and biased religious legacies. NCW also organized several training courses for Radio and TV anchors and script writers on how to handle women's issues as well as provide them with the necessary scientific materials they may need.

To ensure that the message is properly and realistically represents the Egyptian women, the Council implemented a pilot project intended to correct the concepts of society towards women and improve their image about themselves, and highlight their positive image. This has led to the establishment of a unit that monitors the media work on the market and how the image of women is conveyed by the media to the community, and to formulate an integrated strategy that reflects a true picture of women and establish new dialogue formats that express their active role in social, economic, cultural and political fields.

Progress has been noted in the image of women specifically in the drama as a result of the membership of the National Council of Women in the Radio and Television Union and its contribution to the formulation of a media strategy in collaboration with UNICEF that began in 2006.

Egypt and its international obligations:

Egypt is keen on implementing international obligations arising from international conventions on women and ratified by the National Council for women established a special unit to follow up the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against Women CEDAW to intensify awareness-raising and training on CEDAW and established the "special unit for combating trafficking in human beings for study and follow-up reports on the phenomenon of trafficking in women and girls and to propose policies and programmes to raise awareness of the rights of victims of trafficking

It also ensures submitting International reports on the monitoring of the achievement in the advancement of women and to send delegations to attend all international events, particularly on women, who play an important role in the

preparation of the consensus formulations for the final document and the convergence of views between the delegations of the participating countries and regional groups.

LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS:

In the area of legal equality between men and women in regard to their public rights and obligations that this principle has not been without a constitutionally defined modern Egypt since the Constitution of 1923 until 2014, the Constitution and the principle of equality is a fundamental principle on which all Egyptian legislation where both sexes equal rights and women as men are subject to the provisions of the law without discrimination. Egypt has taken significant steps to put this principle into effect and eliminating discriminatory practices against women and improving their status in all areas. This has been achieved on the basis of serious contributions to the National Council for women to propose or amend them.

- The Penal Code equaled between women and men in the criminal accountability, however, added some texts so as to provide greater protection for women, such as:
 - The criminalization of any attempt to expose a female to any kind of embarrassment, be that physical or verbal, in public or privately or even through the telephone, the law also provided for the punishment of anyone who commits an indecent act towards a woman, even if secretly.
 - The Penalty of abducting a female shall be harsher than that of abducting a male.
 - The repeal of article 291 of the Penal Code which provides the following: (if the hijacker marries his victim a legitimate marriage he shall not be sentenced to a penalty of any kind) were this text seriously harms women and represents an evasion of the seriousness of the crime and its penalty for a legal marriage can be easily accessible by the offender.
 - An accused woman shall be searched only by a woman officer appointed particularly for that purpose, moreover, the administrative supervision of a women's prison is assigned only to female officers and employees.
 - The public prosecutor may defer punishment restricting liberty for a pregnant woman in as of the sixth month of her pregnancy and also a moratorium on the death penalty for pregnant women until two months after delivery.

- The Prisons Act No. 396 of 1956, several benefits for accused pregnant women, as well as special rules for providing them with good treatment, especially in terms of chores, food and sleep until delivery, women prisoners may also demand to keep their child until he is two years of age, furthermore, they shall receive a more lenient treatment than that afflicted on their fellow inmates.

▪ **IN THE AREA OF PERSONAL STATUS LEGISLATIONS**

➤ The State issued a package of legislation to protect women, the family and the children based on proposals for new laws or to modify existing ones, for example:

- Act No. 1 of 2001 is concerned with organizing some of the conditions and procedures in the area of personal status which is considered as a qualitative act of civility towards modernizing the procedural basis in resolving personal disputes and facilitate procedures and reduce costs as well as grants women the right to divorce her husband in both formal and customary marriages. After the promulgation of the law the National Council for women took note that the article pertaining to the detention of the husband abstaining to pay the expenses to the beneficiaries has been dropped. Accordingly, the Council has presented a request to re-examine the law, and was therefore granted.
- In 2004, two more laws were released, the first law was on the establishment of the specialized family courts and the other was on establishing a family security fund:
 1. The first gathered all family disputes in one court, so as to ensure prompt settlement of the cases and implementation.
 2. The second secured the payment of the expenses that fathers refrain from paying through the security fund. The Fund's financial resources in turn are being managed on a regular basis.
- In that same year, another law which gives the Egyptian mother the right to confer their nationality to their children of foreign fathers was released.
- In 2005 a law was passed raising the age of custody for children of both genders to 15 years of age.

In the work force and labor field: Law No. 12 of 2003, which included a special chapter on the employment of women, was released, stating that women shall receive equal pay for the same job as men, and prohibited employing them in jobs that are physically hard, dangerous or harmful by nature, moreover, women may not be employed at night, except by decree issued by the Minister of Manpower, the law also obliges the private sector and private businesses to provide protection to their women employees during pregnancy, childbirth, and allow for maternity leave, child care, and that they may not be dismissed from work due to any reason pertaining to motherhood and pregnancy.

In the field of equality between men and women and benefit from tax exemption:

Act No. 91 of 2005 on income tax removed the discrimination against women in the law by including them in the principle of financier with respect to a tax waiver that was previously granted only to men as the sole breadwinners in the family, the exemption limit was raised twice in 2005 and in 2012.

In 2008, The Children's Act No. 126 was issued, by virtue of which Civil Status Law has been modified to raising the age of marriage for both genders to eighteen years of age, and prohibited any marriage contract before this age and obliged those wishing to be married to undergo a medical examination affirming their age, as a condition for completion of the marriage, the law also prohibited female criminalization and female genital mutilation.

In the Field of Political Participation:

After the discontinuation of the Constitution of 1971 as a result of the Revolution of January 25, 2011, the amendment to Law No. 38 of 1972 pertaining to the Parliament was canceled, this amendment provided for the addition of 32 constituencies of limited candidacy to women for the duration of two terms only, a matter which ensured that at least 64 seats were reserved for women, in addition to the possibility for running in the rest of the circles, this raised the proportion of women's representation in the parliament in 2010 to reach 12%. This electoral system was modified to be a combination between individual seats elections and lists, where the text indicated that each list should at least include one women, but failed to specify her position on the list, which led to a huge reduction in the

numbers of women in the parliament in the following elections, which reached 2% only.

After the adoption of the new Constitution of Egypt in the 2014, a review of all the laws governing elections and participation in public and political life is underway, focusing on how best to ensure fair participation for women, without losing the rights already acquired, and ensure their participation in the various stages of the electoral process, and to protect them from all forms of violence against them.

In the areas of social and health insurance laws

The issuance of Law No. 153 of 2006 on social insurance, whereby it granted the husband - as widower- the right to obtain his late wife's pension.

Law No. 23 in 2012 on health insurance for women heads of households which committed the General Authority for Health Insurance to provide treatment services and medical care within the treatment units that falls under its authority or even outside of its units for women heads of households, as it deems necessary for each case, and according to the levels of medical service provided in these units and the rules established by decree of the Minister of Health and population.

On rectifying administrative decisions that were found to represent discrimination against women:

The Interior Minister's decision No. 3937 for the year 1996 on travel that obliges the wife to legally obtain her husband's consent as a condition for the extraction of a travel document and travel abroad has been canceled.

In the area of human rights.

The Law No. 64 of the Year 2010 for combating and preventing trafficking in humans, especially women and children, which was issued based on the commitment of the Egyptian government to a Protocol that was ratified in 2003, pertaining to the prevention, suppression of trafficking and the punishment of human traders.

Law No. 11 of 2011 to amend the Penal Code containing tougher penalties for the offences provided for in part IV of the Act on offences of indecent assault and corrupting morals.

The distinctive status of women in the new Constitution, 2014:

The new Constitution of 2014 guarantees women's distinctive status which included nearly 20 material directly affecting women including:

- State guarantees equality between women and men in all civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- The State shall take measures to ensure appropriate representation of women in Parliamentary Councils as determined by law.
- State guarantees women the right to hold public office and senior management posts in the State and the judicial authorities without discrimination against them.
- The State is obliged to protect women from all forms of violence, and enable them to reconcile between their family duties and work requirements.
- The State is obliged to provide care and protection for children and mothers and women heads of house hold, as well as the elderly and women most needy.
- Allocate a quarter of seats on local councils for women and another quarter for youth.
- Egyptian citizenship is granted to those born to an Egyptian father or an Egyptian mother.
- Gender discrimination is punishable by law, and the establishment of a mechanism for monitoring discrimination against women.
- The National Council for Women is one of the State bodies with an independent legal entity with all the technical, administrative and financial independence and is granted the official right to inform the public authorities for any violation within the scope of its work.
- Women shall benefit from all of the articles in the Constitution as a full citizen with complete citizenship, based on the State's commitment to social justice and social cohesion, ensuring a decent life for all citizens.

The main challenges encountered by Egypt towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women since the Beijing Declaration and its Platform of action:

Despite the achievements made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and its Platform for action, there are still several important challenges that may daunt the advancement of some situations that face women making them incomplete and requiring further effort and overall planning, the most important of which are:

- Still illiteracy constitute an obstacle to the advancement of the status of women in society and the understanding and their rights, roles and reality and the importance of exercising their duties on Fuller form, although there is a slight improvement in the low literacy rate among women from 37.3% in 2006 to 32.5% in 2012, but this ratio still high, especially in the countryside. And require the issue of literacy among women, more innovative solutions and effective follow-up by the concerned institutions, whether formal and informal, and the evaluation of past efforts and benefit from the successful international experience in this area and develop specific gradual goals with a schedule that is consistent with the objectives and indicators of the Millennium.
- The negative cultural traditions against women, supported by the religious biased conceptions remain the most important challenges facing the Egyptian women, while concerned government institutions, with the help of the National Council for women's policies, programmes and plans are constantly trying to show the real picture of women and their role in community building through the formation of groups of enlightened religious scholars and intellectuals and opinion leaders to respond to the advocates of extremism and retro minded ideologies, that may also include a group of journalists, writers, and producers of drama. The National Council for women, with the help of its partners in development and the concerned international institutions produce documentary films and promotional materials, as well as the contribution to the production of drama, about the real picture of women and their role in society and make sure they are broadcasted during the intense hours of viewing.
- As a result of women's relative lateness in going out to the arena of public life, their competitiveness has weakened, particularly within a social context that does not encourage their involvement in family burdens, a matter which violated their ability to manage their time between work tasks and requirements and their role in the family. The Egyptian State works on helping women in this regard by creating training programmes to support their professional knowledge and work environment to make it more suitable for multiple roles as well as by amending existing active laws in the State sector, the public sector and the private sector and take measures to combat discrimination in employment and missed out opportunities of promotion and training. The state also works on combating violence against women in

employment through the establishment of the Equal Opportunity Units within the ministries.

- The weak economic capacity of women represents an important challenge which makes them less self-reliant in making important decisions in life and more dependent on others to provide for their living and force them to depend on the State measures for insurance or social security to compensate for their inability to access proper employment.
- The inability of women to access credit and financing opportunities that may be offered for small production projects and help generate income that allows them to rely on themselves, particularly at times when the recession cast a shadow over the economy of the State.
- Cultural legacies in some communities prevent the ownership or possession of land or property by women, in violation to the provisions of the Islamic Sharia.
- Despite the difficult economic conditions at the local and the global fronts, the Egyptian Government has taken some steps to encourage small businesses by issuing a law in 2004 to promote SMEs and micro projects. However, still a need to strengthen efforts to support women heads of household and women most in need by providing access to the small and micro loans, adding to that, the importance of solving the problems of marketing these products.
- Violence against women is one of the important challenges facing women as a violation of their dignity and humanity and personal security and prevents them from assuming their community roles optimally, it is required that the concerted Government and private associations adopt a set of programs to counter this phenomenon based on the monitoring and study of the causes of its mushrooming, as create societal mechanisms to facilitate reporting and provision of prosecution and arrest and litigation and provide protection and assistance to victims and provide community outreach to spread the awareness of the problem, and review existing legislation and the enactment of legislation to protect women from all forms of violence and provide data and statistics on the phenomenon.
- The Egyptian legislation system is still in need of a comprehensive review, especially after the country's new Constitution with its guarantees to protect the rights of women, and to be fairer and more comprehensive in the scope of the protection provided for women and the Elimination of conflicts

between some articles and the need to modify and develop procedural laws and regulations to eliminate its complexities that may often stand in the way of law enforcement and justice, in addition to the need to develop a new system for the enforcement of sentences and judicial decisions. Finally, a monitoring mechanism or office must be created to watch over the enforcement of such laws and to submit proposals for amendment when necessary.

Part II

The Progress Made

in the Implementation of the Critical Areas of Concern

of the Beijing Platform for Action Since 2009

1. Women and Poverty:

a) Strategic Objectives:

- The eradication of poverty and its causes and its effects on women, especially in rural areas and the informal sector.
- Provide women with access to savings and credit institutions.

b) Main Achievements:

- Poverty alleviation is one of the main objectives of the long term plan in Egypt where the plan aims to reduce poverty by 6% by 2022 and is equally addressing directed towards both genders.
- The Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics developed a poverty map in all governorates of the Republic. NCW requested that the Agency includes data on the levels of poverty among women so that the Council could determine the needs of the poorest of women and address their problems.
- The National Council for women organized several projects to assist women in the face of poverty; examples of these projects are :
 - Women breadwinners' project:
The project was carried out in 72 villages at the level of 21 Governorates, with 46 villages in Governorates of Upper Egypt and 10 in Lower Egypt, while 14 villages from the border governorates, and two provinces in the urban areas. This project

was implemented by way of capital turnover and the number of beneficiaries reached over 7,500 women.

- Rural women program:
133 training courses were held across the country for "Rural women pioneers, Board members of community associations, community development associations", in order to review and address the problems faced by the rural women in Egypt.
- In 2013/2014, NCW founded 27 civil society organizations for the rural women pioneers at the rate of one society in each governorate, These societies aim at assisting the rural women pioneers by help solve their problems, and work on improving their economical situation, increase their efficiency and enact their role in developing their societies. This comes in light of the Council's keenness on improving the standard of living of Egyptian women as one of its main objectives.
- The Council has also taken all measures to establish a Union for the pioneers of development to complement the voluntary organizational structure and works in parallel with the committees of the Council which seeks to solve the problems of the assemblies of the pioneers.

Small loans project:

This project was implemented in 10 villages belonging to 4 different governorates, namely, Menya, Fayoum, Giza and Qalioubeya, by 6 civil society organizations. The number of beneficiaries reached 600 women.

The Menya Comprehensive Project – Menya Governorate:

NCW has initiated a project for the comprehensive development for the society, through supporting women in all fields of development, throughout 4 villages in Menya Governorate. The project was implemented in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental institutions in order to create innovative and unconventional projects, including supporting literacy efforts, and obtaining birth certificates for the unregistered individuals, offer small and micro loans for women, and assist them in

obtaining their National ID cards and make them aware of their rights and help solve their problems as well as further their health awareness.

Project to support the role of women as keepers of the heritage and workers in traditional crafts:

This programme aims at collecting, documenting and developing the Egyptian women's folkloric heritage and traditional crafts, while introducing an economic dimension to it, in order to help benefit the women through the promotion and marketing of these traditional products. In that, the National Council for Women had deep vision with a cultural, technical and scientific backdrop, through which the preservation of traditional aphorisms and crafts may be preserved, according to modern scientific standards and procedures, giving scholars, researchers and those concerned with women issues as well as those working in any creative field, the opportunity to access information on the Egyptian women heritage. This project was set up through a Committee of experts and specialists who examined the topic from all aspects.

The project included the revival of the traditional art of tally fabrics in Upper Egypt and the traditional (Kotba) in North Sinai and Bedouin crafts in Siwa Oasis as a heritage conservation projects and development.

Over 800 Ladies were trained so far on these professional crafts, some of them are now marketing their products locally and globally through a Web portal created by the Council's Women's Skills Development Center or through other marketing possibilities.

C) Obstacles and Challenges:

- Most of the women working in the informal sector lack health and social security services.
- Egypt faces significant challenges in achieving productive employment for all job seekers of both sexes by 2015 because of the financial, economic and food crises in the past years.
- The need to exhort more effort in the development and marketing of handicrafts.

2. The Education and Training of Women:

A. strategic objectives:

- Eradicate illiteracy among women.
- Raising the efficiency of education and training for women.
- Promoting the right to education and training.

B. main achievements:

Despite the high rate of illiteracy among women in the society ranging from 63% to 80% of women in rural areas, a significant effort is exerted in this area aiming at reducing illiteracy, particularly among women. Further continuous efforts are made by the General Authority for literacy and Adult Education through the inclusion of additional training and development programmes for teaching rural women new skills that would economically enable them as a plan to encourage them to attend literacy classes. Further development and expansion of literacy programs are constantly being introduced, allowing more females in rural areas who had missed on the opportunity of education, to engage in such classes.

The literacy Act pertaining to establishing the literacy Institute has been amended to allow for more autonomy and decentralization in its decisions, planning and implementation, through enabling Governors and local administrations to plan and set literacy schemes that take into account the social and economic dimensions of each province.

The implementation of the Literacy Efforts Support Project in its "first phase, 2001-2005 and second phase, 2005-present" in 3 of the Fayoum Governorate villages, namely, The Dimishkine Village, The Roubiyat Village and Ezbet Abdul Azim Village, in which 84 literacy classes were founded, attended by a total of 1500 students of both genders (around 500 males and 1000 females) while 1120 of whom had successfully passed the exam, (370 males and 750 females) the work and efforts are still going on.

It must be mentioned that this try-out had many advantages:

- High percentage of attendance (85%) Compared to (65%) in regular classes of education.
- High success rate (85%) Compared to (68%) in regular classes.
- Students received craftsmanship training certificates.
- The active role of the community facilitator.

- The establishment of 1331 of what is considered as 'Girl Friendly Schools' and 'Society Schools' in 2012, aiming to give a real opportunity to girls from poor families and drop outs aged from 6-14 to catch up with their education. These girls often drop out due to the lack of a nearby governmental school, as well as their local customs and traditions that does not allow for girls to go unaccompanied for long distances.
- The branches of the National Council for Women nationwide launch initiatives for literacy in cooperation with the General Authority for Literacy and Adult Education and the executive bodies of each province, such as the initiative of the province of Qena villages of "Taramsa and Dendera", and the initiative of the province of El Beheira "A Beheiran Woman in a village without illiteracy" these initiatives depend on providing means of attraction for the ladies by giving them incentives that shall have positive returns for them and their families as they efface their illiteracy.
- A programme to "Update Statistics in two villages in the Fayoum governorate has been implemented, in cooperation with the Centre for social research, at the American University in Cairo in 2009". These programmes aimed at modernizing the statistical system and training those in charge and restart the process of gathering information and data on the educational situation of the two villages and plan accordingly thereon.

This programme has led to the following:

- Providing databases of literacy.
 - Evaluate the indicators issued by the General Authority for literacy and adult education
- The National Council for Women convened workshops and seminars with the General Authority for Literacy and Adult Education, which discussed plans for the eradication of illiteracy and the most important problems facing its implementation; moreover, and during which a declaration of commitment has been announced by the literacy commission to abide with a detailed plan for the eradication of illiteracy at the provincial level.
 - The Council commissioned its branches nationwide to follow-up on literacy efforts, and to report to the Secretariat and submit proposals that will support and strengthen these efforts.
 - It is expected that Egypt achieves the second goal of the Millennium Development Goals, which includes enrolling all students of both sexes in basic education by 2015, the ratio of primary enrollment for both sexes in Egypt in 2008/2009 so far reached 96%, as Egypt has made great

achievement with relation to literacy, where the illiteracy rate decreased among the age group of 15-24 to 15.1%.

- When the concept of a 'One Classroom School' was being first implemented by the Ministerial Decree No. 255 for the year 1993 under the supervision of the Ministry of Education, it was intended for achieving equal opportunities of education for girls living in areas of high population density as well as the deprived of educational services and school drop outs or even those who did not enroll at all, in an effort to reduce illiteracy rates. Therefore this project began with the creation of 418 school in 1993-1994 were 2900 girl students had enrolled from various governorates around the country, the number schools has ever since multiplied, reaching 3260 with 64454 students by 2009-2010, and reaching close to 8 folds during the past years representing 22 times the number of students compared to when it started.
- The proportion of females in pre-university/college education levels has risen to up to 84% of total enrolment.
- There is full gender equality in enrolment in post-graduate studies where the proportion of women enrolled in higher studies climbed from 39.7% as opposed to the males' 60.3% in the academic year 2000/2001, to reach 50.6% of females to 49.4% of males in the year 2011/2012.

C. obstacles and challenges:

- The high percentage of illiteracy among women compared to men, especially in rural areas which require additional support for literacy programs targeting women.
- Economic conditions and poverty in the countryside pose a major impediment to girls' education, particularly in Upper Egypt.

3- Women and Health:

A - Strategic Objectives:

- Strengthen preventive programs that improve women's health.
- Encourage research and the dissemination of information on women's health.
- raise the level of health services for women in all stages of their lives.

B - The most important achievements:

- The state intensive efforts to inform women on the available health services and means of prevention and protection from diseases in general or family planning services provided through its institutions.

- The Ministry of Education has incorporated the components of reproductive health within its curriculum, especially at the secondary level.
- Civil society organizations shall play a large and influential role in raising awareness of women's health, especially in rural areas.
- The Ministry of Health initiated a national campaign for early detection of breast cancer since 2007 and the adoption of a standardized system for recording cases of tumors at the national level and the creation of the National Program for Women's Health, which is concerned with providing an opportunity for Egyptian women to get a thorough examination that is appropriate for the early detection of breast cancer cases and ensure that All women shall receive the the highest quality of medical examination services, in addition to providing accurate and comprehensive statistical information on breast cancer in Egypt.
- Law No. 23 of the year 2012 on health insurance for women heads of households, committed the General Authority for Health Insurance to provide therapy services and medical care for women breadwinners in the health institutions specified by the Commission be that within or outside its subdivision, according to the levels of medical service and the rules established by decree of the Minister of Health and Population.

Reduction of child mortality rates:

Egypt has succeeded in achieving this goal with regard to reducing the mortality rate of children under five years of age by two-thirds, where the number of such deaths in 1990 reached 104 deaths per thousand live births, while in 2008 the number went down to 28 deaths only of every thousand cases of live birth, which represents a decrease of 73%.

Improving reproductive health:

It is expected for Egypt to achieve this millennium goal, which states the reduction of the maternal mortality rate by 75% on time, considering that the number of maternal deaths in the country dropped by 68% from what it was in 1992, were 174 deaths out of every hundred thousand births was reported, which dropped to 55 deaths every hundred thousand live births in 2008 as a result of improving medical

care for mothers before and after birth, where 74% of the mothers received the medical care in 2008, compared with 3% of mothers in 1995.

Combating HIV/Aids, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases:

The Prevalence of HIV / AIDS in Egypt between 1986 - 2009 does not exceed 0.1%, and therefore does not represent a big challenge to the country regarding combating this virus while malaria has been eradicated in Egypt since 1998 .

Egypt has also succeeded in combating tuberculosis, where 87% of tuberculosis cases detected are treated. However, there are still some challenges in combating serious diseases such as hepatitis B and C and the seasonal flu.

Expand health insurance to include rural women, Bedouin, and the elderly, and create mobile medical centers and convoys to provide health care for the elderly at their homes.

The signing of a cooperation protocol between the Ministry of Health & Population and the Social Fund which in turn contracts Civil Society Associations in the different governorates of the Republic, particularly the poorer provinces in order to employ 6,000 pilot rural women that would be trained by the Ministry of Health and Population to spread health awareness among community members about the maternal and child health services and to promote women's health.

C - Obstacles and challenges:

- The Low quality of the free health care provided by the government.
- Health insurance programs are not accessible to a large number of poor women.
- The failure to extend health insurance to certain groups of women.
- The high cost of treating some diseases which affect women, such as breast tumors and osteoporosis.

4. Violence against women:

1 - Strategic objectives:

- Provision of legal protection for women to ensure that they are not exposed to violence.
- The application of the international conventions that guarantee women's rights to be free from violence.

-The most important achievements:

Legal protection:

The Penal Code contains a separate section on the crimes of indecent assault and corrupting the morals that was amended in 2011 to rule a more severe punishment in case such crimes fall on women or girls. Were the punishment may reach death penalty in the case of rape and the imprisonment of not less than seven years in the case of sexual assault on children under 12 years of both genders, and harsh imprisonment of not less than ten years in the case of the kidnapping of a female.

Article 291, which exempts a rapist from punishment if he marries the victim, was cancelled.

NCW has established the Women Ombudsman's to help them in getting their rights, and also launched in 2007 the implementation of the project "violence against women", which included the following outputs: a comprehensive study on the phenomenon of violence against women at the level of the republic in 2009, as well as a framework for a national strategy to combat violence and the Planning of future activities associated with them.

The implementation of a national campaign against female circumcision as one of the manifestations of violence and violation of the child's body, were the Minister of Health issued a decree banning doctors and nurses to perform circumcision, moreover, the Children's Act of 2008 was passed to criminalize female genital mutilation. Furthermore, in their attempt to address the phenomenon, the National Council for Women and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood and the National Council for Population implemented a national program aimed at promoting the creation of a public opinion that opposes this phenomenon in all

governorates of the Republic in cooperation with the Muslim and Christian clerics, as well as the NGOs.

In 2007, a decision was issued by the Prime Minister to form the National Coordinating Committee for Combating Trafficking in Humans, especially women and children. This committee shall study the phenomenon of trafficking in women and determine the dimensions of this phenomenon, and review the national legislation and propose policies and programs and come up with an action plan to address this phenomenon. The Commission succeeded in issuing a law to combat trafficking in women and children in 2010 that was prepared in collaboration with several concerned institutions. The Commission has also implemented, as part of its annual work plans a number of training programs and workshops to raise the efficiency of workers in the media, the judiciary board and public prosecutor and the institutions of the police and army in the areas of arrest, investigation, prosecution, protection and litigation. The Commission shall also prepare an annual report on the state's efforts to combat trafficking in human beings and the extent of progress in this regard.

- in 2010 a framework for a strategic national plan has been developed through establishing a definition of violence in its various forms in light of the diversity of cultures in the different geographical areas in Egypt and the different economic and social conditions so as to achieve the following three main objectives that were set forth, according to the specificity of each area:

- Strengthen laws and regulations to prevent and combat violence against women.
 - The protection and support to abused women and their families.
 - Promote non-violence through the media, education and through raising public awareness.
-
- This strategy is currently underway to be complete with the help of the involved partners, with a consideration of establishing a unit within the Council for the objective of monitoring and following up its implementation.
 - The National Council for Women launched an integrated multi-entry project to deal with the phenomenon of violence against women in cooperation with each of the Ministries of interior, Justice and other public and private institutions, where a cooperation protocol with the Ministry of the Interior was signed, according to which, "The Unit for Combating Violence against Women," was established, followed by founding branches for the unit in the

Directorates Security and police stations all over the provinces of Egypt that include officers of both genders who are scientifically qualified and trained to receive complaints of violence against women and establish follow-up communications and aid the victims.

- Furthermore, and according to the protocol signed with the National Council for Women, the Ministry of Justice established a parallel unit in the ministry for combating violence against women, with the duty to review all legislations that may be concerned with violence against women and submit the necessary legal proposals, as well as conduct training courses, seminars and workshops for the workers in the field of violence against women.
- In 2011 the National Council for Women prepared a draft law to protect women from all forms of violence which is expected to be released with the first elected parliament to come. It is worth mentioning that the existing law has been modified to some extent in the materials relating to crimes of indecent assault and corruption of morals which led to the tightening of sanctions on such crimes, however, it is found that they are still not enough to cope with all the manifestations of violence against women.
- In November 19, 2012, all branches of the Council nationwide organized simultaneous conferences under the title "Towards a Secure Life for Egyptian Women" which discussed the psychological, legal and religious visions on violence and causes for domestic violence and ways to combat violence in schools; the conferences included an initial poll within a sample of 13500 ladies and girls which started in villages and hamlets creating a community dialogue aimed at raising the awareness of the seriousness and implications of this phenomenon on women and their families. The Result showed that about more than 80% of women have been subjected to harassment, whether verbal or physical in the streets and in transportation facilities. The phenomenon of sexual harassment is now considered a priority among the issues and problems facing the Egyptian women. Implementation of key recommendations resulting from the field survey is underway.
- The National Council for women organized a conference entitled "women and the Constitution ... A vision for the future ". The Conference recommendations included:
 - The formulation of a draft law to combat violence against women and the criminalization of the perpetrators.
 - Increase the number of shelters for battered women.
 - The training of all those who deal with the victims of violence from police bodies to doctors, social workers and psychologists.
 - Intensify the awareness programs in various media outlets as well as in schools and houses of worship.
 - Providing accurate statistics on violence in General and encourage families to report such crimes.

- Prepare programmes to provide psychological and social support to victims and work on their reintegration and rehabilitation within the community.
 - Review the family court systems and find appropriate solutions to the problems of alimony.
 - Assert the women's right to inheritance and to consider the denial of inheritance a kind of violence.
- The Egyptian delegation headed by the President of the National Council for Women succeeded in achieving the issuance of the final document of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women CSW57 which was stalled several times due to the conflict between the progressive forces positions and the other conservative fronts who were afraid of any shift this may create on their societies at the expense of the delay and denial of women's dignity. The Council had an important role in breaking the conservative bloc, which had built its views on misconceptions of some phrases in the document.
- As a result of the repeated acts of sexual harassment against women in the streets and private places to the extent that it has become a predicament, civil society organizations launched even more initiatives to protect women from harassment by trained teams for the protection of women in private gatherings and places of congestion at public events and holidays, vigils and demonstrations; examples of these initiatives are:-
 1. An Initiative called "Ate' Edaik," which works to protect females against the abuses they experience in the Egyptian society at all levels from the first glance until the actual striping act.
 2. The "Shoft Taharosh" pressure group working on monitoring and documenting crimes of sexual harassment against women and girls and provide legal and psychological support for the victims of physical violence in public places.
 3. The "Emsek Motaharresh" initiative, aimed at ending the community acceptance of the phenomenon of harassment and abuse by changing the behaviors in the Egyptian street down to reduce the phenomenon as much as possible.
- The National Council for women launched an extensive 30 days awareness initiative under the slogan "Break the barrier of humility ... You have the right to live in security ", the initiative aims at the following:

- Provide basic information on the subject of violence against women from multiple angles and dimensions, and what are the steps that battered women should take if exposure to violence.
- Provide a general social culture that counters such practices through a positive media with a healthy social message and a clear and decisive religious speech that refutes all sorts of violence against women, be that in the mosque or in the church.
- Facing the poor publicity and advertising in the media on the help services and hotlines for reporting harassment, through providing folders and poster for distribution around the country.
- In an act that manifested the degree by which the state is adamant on confronting harassment, the President of the Republic issued a decree that defines harassment and prohibits and criminalizes such acts through deterrent penalties, while giving the judge the freehand in determining the type of penalty according to what he deems appropriate for each case.
- The Council updated the national strategy to combat violence against women in cooperation with the involved partners, as well as a national study conducted by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics on the phenomenon of violence against women and the extent of the economic losses to the family and the State.

C - Obstacles and challenges:

- The continued spread of the phenomenon of violence against women.
- The reluctance to report harassment behaviors, especially within the family members, under pressure from the Customs and traditions.

5-Women and Armed Conflicts:

A) Strategic Objectives:

- Encouraging women to spread a culture of peace.
- Increase the participation of women in resolving conflicts and the decision making process in matters relating to them.
- Women and children are to be considered the most affected by armed conflicts.
- Women situation during armed conflicts are not directly applicable to Egypt, were it is addressed within the context of the wars that are taking place in the region in general, and that can pose as a threat to the entire world.

6- Women and Economy:

A- Strategic Objectives:

- Increase the participation of women in the labour market
- Combating female unemployment.
- Emphasizing that women benefit from their participation in development.
- Empowering women to strengthen their capacities and self-reliance and increase its contribution to the economic and sustainable development planning.

B. main achievements:

- September 2008 marked the beginning of the worst economic and financial crisis since a long time, it began in the United States and then spread to the rest of the world to include European and Asian countries and the Gulf States as well as developing countries, and it was natural that this crisis had its impact on the Egyptian economy.
- Despite the relative improvement in the rate of economic growth in Egypt, it is noted that the problem of unemployment is still a major challenge, the global crisis on the labor market in Egypt and more on female unemployment rates have risen among females significantly increasing from 18.7% in the last quarter of 2006 to 22.7% in the last quarter of 2009, while the unemployment rate among males tended to decrease from 5.9% to 5.1% during the same period.
- Given the geographical distribution, it is noticed that females in urban areas have been significantly affected, were their unemployment rate has increased from 26.2% in the last quarter of 2006 to 29.2% in the last quarter of 2009, while the unemployment rate remained stable among men about 7.5% to 8.5% over the same period. The increased unemployment rate among women led to an increasing level of poverty among female heads of household. The Egyptian Government has taken several measures to mitigate the damage of the crisis, including:
 - A social programme shall be implemented to encourage companies not to have layoffs and maintain staffing levels as they are.
 - Assume the optimal use of national savings through the available liquidity at banks and other domestic sources of financing.

- Exempt banks from the legal reserve at the Central Bank in the scope of loans granted to small and medium-sized enterprises, which means lowering the interest rate for these projects by about 1.5%.
- Take action to stimulate other economic sectors like tourism were motivating airline carriers by supporting chartered flights programs to some destinations, and reducing landing and take-off fees at the Egyptian airports, along with continued tourism promotion campaigns in foreign markets, particularly the emerging markets in East Asia.
- The central bank cut the interest rates on the one night deposit and lending rates by half a percent for four consecutive times, in order to encourage domestic investment, bringing the annual rate of return to 9% on deposits and 10.5% on lending.

With regard to Egypt's achievements in the area of women and the economy, it is useful to point out the following:

- The Egyptian Constitution of 2014 declared that the state shall work on achieving equal opportunities for all citizens without discrimination and equality between women and men in all civil and political rights and economic (Acts 9-11-17-27-53) (See attachment: Constitution of Egypt). These articles also guarantees the right of women to hold public office and senior management posts and recruitment without discrimination and raise the standard of living, increase employment and reduce unemployment, eradicate poverty and ensure social security for women and men.
- Review and amend the laws to be free of all kinds of discrimination against women and establish the principle of gender equality in national legislation and oblige the various Ministries of the Cabinet to review and adjust their legislations, regulations and administrative procedures each within his Ministry, to prevent discrimination against women on the economic, social and cultural fields.
- Take advantage of the labor unions, and youth centers in villages and cities, and Scouting associations in establishing and spreading the values of gender equality, and correcting erroneous social heritage about women through various cultural activities by highlighting the economic contribution of women.
- Address specific gaps between men and women in training and wages, granting equal opportunities for young men and women in new jobs for the Government sector, enacting the principle of reporting on discrimination against women and taking advantage of the mechanism to monitor discrimination.
- Expansion in the establishment of training centers for the preparation of the technical staff of the women needed by the emerging investment

opportunities, and the establishment of technical support centers for training women for the labor market in the industrial field. Moreover, linking their small projects to a marketing system helps the continued success of these projects, thus contributing to the strengthening of the national income.

- Activating the role of the equal opportunity units which the Council had called for to be established in most ministries and the implementation of projects aimed at the poorest women, such as the project "Support to Women Heads of Household".
- Implement a number of initiatives to reimburse women under forfeiture.
- Supporting poor women in the informal sector, especially female heads of households, as well as providing simple loan insurance for women through the establishment of a special fund that bears the payment on women risking forfeit and possibly confinement.
- Encourage the private sector to respect the conditions of their women employees in pregnancy and childbirth and not use it as an excuse for sacking or oppressing them as it is a commitment by the State to protect children and mothers.
- Emphasize the role of civil associations and urge them to implement development programs for women, and the provision of financial resources to fund its activities, and invite civil society organizations to cooperate with each other in order to strengthen the position of women and their role.
- Support collaborative projects between women to solve the problem unemployment and provide social protection and health insurance for women working in the informal sector and employment of seasonal and temporary jobs.
- In the area of rural development and raising the standard of living of its population, favorable legislation have been enacted to ensure rural women's access to all their rights, and allocate a clause in the state budget for the development of the productive capacity of poor women in rural agricultural and desert areas, and the allocation of a percentage of the territory of agricultural reclamation in favor of women, and the provision of permanent accommodation for marketing handmade products.

C. obstacles and challenges:

- The unemployment rate among women is more than four times the rate among men.
- There is no social protection and health insurance for women working in the informal sector and temporary and seasonal employment especially in rural areas.

7- Women in power and decision making:

a. strategic objectives:

- To increase the representation of women in Parliament institutions and legislatures, political and decision-making positions by supporting their political participation.

- To increase the percentage of women's membership in political parties, unions and professional associations, local councils and civil society organizations.

B. main achievements:

- Under the new Constitution, Article 180 has allocated a quarter of the seats in local councils of women which will contribute to raise the representation of women to nearly 13,000 women, a review of laws concerning the electoral propaganda rules and the violations and breaches committed and the extent by which they have an impact on women's participation in the electoral process as voters or candidates is currently underway.
- Egyptian women held the highest political and public positions in the country during the past periods, handling positions such as the portfolios of Manpower, Health, Social Solidarity, Planning and International Cooperation, Ministry of Information as well as that of the Environment, while the current Ministerial formation included 4 women in 2014, as well as the position of Assistant to the Minister (Assistant Secretary of State) in key Ministries such as the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- The Egyptian women have been for some time participating in decision making and the implementation of the state policies through many public functions at all governmental levels. There is a notable continuous increase of the rate of women's participation, which reached 37% of the leadership positions in the executive branch of the State in (2012). As well as their participation in the executive boards of administration of local governorates and the presidency of some city councils and districts and village councils, as well as the position of agent of Parliament for several sessions, most recently in the parliament of 2010. In addition, women occupied the presidency of a number of important parliamentary committees and chairmanship of several truth and reconciliation commissions. Moreover, women represent 20% of the members of the diplomatic service at all levels from the post of Ambassador until the position of Third Secretary. It is noteworthy that some Egyptian women also occupy several regional and International top posts.
- Egyptian women also succeeded in reaching the Presidency of a number of political parties by way of fair elections.
- Egyptian women also held top positions in several syndicates such as the Syndicate of Medical Doctors, The Nurses syndicate and The Tour Guides Association.

- Egyptian Women also managed to reach top positions in fields that were classically unavailable for them for a long time, such as the Head of the University, and Head of National Research and Scientific Centers, as well as some unusual positions, such as Islamic Marriage registrar which was always limited to classical Islamic male clergymen.
- The National Council for women has implemented a multifaceted programme which included the establishment of a Centre for politically qualifying women aiming at raising awareness of the society about the importance of women's participation in the development efforts, which have contributed to increasing the number of women candidates for the Parliament in 2010 who were elected after the issuance of the law, which allocated 32 circles for women amounting to 64 seats, bringing the number of women representatives to 67, i.e.; 12% the number of seats.
- After the revolution of 25 January 2011 and that the Egyptian women had sparked its fuse, and as women's voices rose in the fields demanding bread, freedom and social justice, many groups and feminist coalitions that have been able to reach a formula of joint action were formed, to be a constant reminder of women's rights and a tool for maintaining their gains and respond to their derogation attempts during period of governance of the regime that prevailed directly after the revolution of January 25th, many of the women organized stands and sit-ins and made claims to the constituent assemblies for the preparation of the Constitution.
- in a critical stage of transition, the UN women office in Egypt assisted in the establishment of the first Egyptian feminist Union, where 500 women's advocacy group voiced their demands as one, this is as well as the 'Egyptian Alliance for Civic Education and Participation of Women', which acts as an observer to the elections. More than 500,000 people from 27 Governorates signed a national Charter which highlights the hopes of women for the future of her country.
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNIFEM, both support the Council's implementation of the programme aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of female parliamentarians and to improve their capacity to make proposals and reviewing draft laws and resolutions and amendment of legislation, as well as the methods of analysis of national plans and the State budget and the follow-up to the executive organs of the State and international conventions, as well as strengthening their ability to pressure and adopt issues and build alliances and gain public support.
- The Government, In Partnership with the UNW, implements the initiative "women's citizenship", that aims at helping 2 million women extract their National ID Cards in order to allow them to cast their votes in any elections as well as becoming eligible to benefit from the different public services provided by the state.

- And in an unprecedented initiative, the National Council for women organized a rally campaign where all presidential candidates in the 2012 election were invited, to view their electoral programs and inspect the women component in them. The rally was attended by four of the candidates as well as representatives of the other candidates, where the demands and expectations of women were presented to them, the Conference concluded with several recommendations, most important of which is the need for a text in the new constitution to issue a law regulating the elections, whether on the basis of proportional list system, or individual or mixed, so as to ensure a minimum level of fair representation of women, as well as the text on equality before the law and equal opportunities for all citizens, and to criminalize discrimination and to ensure its implementation on the ground through a mechanisms that monitors violations and address them, and the importance of providing the basic needs of different groups of people and classes, and that the eradication of poverty and illiteracy be the priority of the development policy, leading to raise the standard of living.
- The National Council for women also organized a conference entitled "Women and the Constitution ... A Future Vision" its recommendations included the following:
 - The need to amend the law on political rights, so that it includes smaller constituencies to enable women to run for elections, and allocate a circle or more for the women in each province.
 - Oblige the political parties in the election law to allocate one-third of their nominees for women, as well as place them at the forefront the list.
 - Support women in her campaign.
 - Secure women against all violations and breaches committed through activating the controls and measure that are aimed at preventing the use of violence during the electoral process.
- The legal measure that was adopted by the approved Constitutional Declaration of 2011, which stipulated that a mixed electoral system between individual seats and the list mechanism, and stressed on the inclusion of at least one woman on the list, has failed to achieve the objective of securing women seats in the parliament, where women nominees were typically placed at the bottom of the lists, bring the number of women representatives in the following parliament to only 7, with a percentage of 1.8% of the seats.
- NCW initiated a community dialogue titled, "Participate in Writing your Constitution", with a view to the participation of all citizens, men and women in the new Constitution which was released in 2014. The Council accordingly allocated several telephone lines and e-mails as well as profile on Facebook and Twitter to facilitate communication, as well as follow up on the opinions and suggestions published in various magazines and news papers on amendments to the Constitution. NCW then analyzed and organized these views and presented them to the Committee of 50 in charge of drafting the new constitution.

- The Council organized hearings between the committee of 50, which is in charge of drafting the new Constitution and a number of women in Egypt among them are women representing the most needy at the level of the Republic and female heads of households, the elderly and women with special needs or those taking care of individual or several individuals with disabilities in the family, with a view to presenting the most important needs and proposals of those segments to alleviate the suffering of women with various problems and emphasize their rights in the provision of health care services and educational and cultural services, and address the role of the state and its organs and institutions in the commitment to a State of Justice and rule of law, equality, freedom and equal opportunities for all citizens of both genders.
- "Share and Monitor", a voluntary initiative "of the Egyptian Centre for women's rights" and "Parliament for the Defense of Women's Rights" concerned with women's participation in supervising and monitoring the activities of the constitutional referendum in 2014 from a qualitative perspective (women's committees in all provinces), the aim of these initiative is to:

1. Opening the channels for women's participation on a voluntary basis, this helped to increase the proportion of public and political participation of women.
2. Monitoring violations against women and girls during the referendum by individuals, groups or institutions.
3. Analysis of the pros and cons of the practical application of legal procedures, the organization of the referendum and the impact of direct and indirect participation of women.

The initiative is to monitor any fact or phenomenon, which may constitute a violation of one or more of the rights relating to freedom and fairness of the referendum and the rights of women.

C - Obstacles and challenges:

- Society's perception of women's inability to participate in political life.
- The placement of women candidates at the end of the electoral lists adversely affect the chances of winning the election.

- The difficulty of women's access to information, finance and media support.
- Discrimination and inequality between women and men in political life.

8. Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women:

A - Strategic Objectives:

• Article (214) of the new constitution stated that the law shall define the National Councils in the country as independent entities - among which is the National Council for Women - and specifies how to form each of them and their terms of reference and the means to ensure the independence and impartiality of their members. These councils enjoy an independent legal as well as technical, financial, administrative identity, and are to be consulted on draft laws and regulations that are related to their field of work.

B. main achievements:

- The National Council for women was established by virtue of the Republican Decree No. 90 of the year 2000 as an independent constitutional institution that follows the President of the Republic, and aims for the advancement and empowerment of women and enables them towards an effective participation in their country's comprehensive development, and to assume their social, economic and political role. That strengthening women's capacities is an essential factor for change that have the greatest impact on the desired development in the field of women's development and solve the problems facing their effective participation in the overall development of society.
- The Council is also competent to propose projects for the national economic and social plans aimed at the advancement of women, this has already been practiced three times before in (2002-2007) & (2007-2012) and (2012-2017) five-year national plans proposal.
- The Council has the right to propose and comment on draft laws concerning women and address the State institutions and non-governmental Institutions, in this regard; NCW has branches in all governorates of the Republic.
- In order to solve the problems of women, the Council established the Ombudsman's Office and follow up at its central level, as well as branches in all governorates of the Republic (27 counties), in addition to that, the Council established the equal opportunity units within most ministries that report directly to each consecutive Minister's offices. These units aim to pursue the equality and non-discrimination between women and men in employment. These units also contribute to solving

the problems of working women through cooperation with the Ombudsman's Office.

- In order to strengthen the economic and social capacity of women, the Council established the Centre for the development of women's skills, aiming to develop the leadership skills of the working woman, and developing the skills of young graduates for the labor market and the development of women's skills in the Administration and management of micro or small enterprises.
- Convinced of the message board and seek to take advantage of the role of international organizations, regional and local cooperation between those organizations and the National Council for women, which, the National Council for women is one of the institutions involved in the development of a framework for cooperation for development under the auspices of the Ministry of international cooperation of Egypt. He is in charge of the presentation and discussion of the status of women in the framework of the follow-up Commission on the status of women in the United Nations.
- The National Council for women is one of the institutions involved in the development of a framework for cooperation for development under the auspices of the Ministry of international cooperation of Egypt. It is in charge of the presentation and discussion of the status of women in the framework of the follow-up Commission on the status of women in the United Nations. It is through the council's conviction and dedication to its message that it seeks to take advantage of the role of the local cooperation, regional and international organizations. NCW became a member of the gender and development group of the donor group.

9- Human Rights for Women

a- Strategic Objectives

- Secure legal protection of women against violence, and educating them about their legal rights, and the importance of safeguarding such rights.
- Equality in front of the law.
- Modifying the legislations that hinder women from assuming their roles, which discriminate against them

b- Most Important Achievements

- Article 6 of the Egyptian Constitution of 2014 stipulates that nationality is passed to those born to an Egyptian father or mother, and that giving them legally acknowledged official documents proving their identity is a right that is regularized and secured by virtue of the law, and the law will specify conditions relevant to acquiring citizenship.

- Article 11 of the Egyptian constitution stipulates that men and women are equal in all civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights in accordance with the provisions of the constitution. The State will take all necessary measures to ensure the adequate representation of women in parliamentary councils, in accordance with the law and ensures women have the right to hold public office and senior management positions in the State, and entitles them to employment in judiciary entities and tribunals without prejudice against them. The State is committed to the protection of women against all forms of violence, and to facilitate their ability to achieve balance between their family duties and work requirements. The State is also committed to providing care and protection of motherhood, childhood and women-headed households, the elderly and women in dire need.
- Article 93 of the Egyptian constitution stipulates that the State must commit to international human rights agreements, covenants and treaties signed by Egypt, and that they acquire the force of law after publication in accordance with the established procedures.
- The National Council for Women has established a central office for "Receiving and Following-up on Complaints Filed by Women" and it has a branch in every governorate. The office is considered the official channel through which any Egyptian woman can report any discriminatory practice she faces by dialing-up the office, or in person, by email or regular mail. A group of dedicated lawyers in addition to a number of volunteer lawyers work at the governorate level providing legal advice in relation to each communication received and provide assistance to the complainants in taking necessary legal action. The Office also issues a periodical report which includes studies and statistics about the most important issues of common nature to take the necessary actions in relation to the issues women suffer from. The office is also implementing a plan to raise awareness among women of their legal rights at the governorate level.
- In accordance with article 28 of the anti-trafficking law, the National Coordinating Committee for Combating and Preventing Human Trafficking has been established and reports to the Prime Minister's office and specializes in coordinating policies, plans and programs to combat human trafficking, protect victims and provide services to them and to

protect witnesses at the national level. The Prime Minister's decree No. 2353 for 2010 has been issued regarding the re-formation of this committee to carry out many tasks, including:

- ✓ Drafting of a national action plan to combat and prevent trafficking in human beings.
 - ✓ Monitoring the implementation of Law No. 64 for 2010 on combating trafficking in human beings.
 - ✓ Monitoring Egypt's implementation of its international obligations arising from international treaties related to combating trafficking in human beings.
- It is worth mentioning that the Women Complaints Office is taking an active role in contributing to the achievement of the terms of reference of this committee.

c- Obstacles and Challenges

- Lack of women's awareness of their rights, particularly in the rural areas, which ultimately result in exposing them to violence, and violating their human rights.

10- Women and the Media:

a- Strategic Objectives

- Encourage portraying balanced non-stereo typical images of women in the media
- Increase women's contribution in mass media, and reinforcing their role, and engaging them in planning and decision making with respect to various media programs.

b- Most Important Achievements

- Since the National Council for Women became a member in the Board of Trustees of the Federation of Radio and Television, it has submitted several proposals that focus on improving the image of women in the media.
- The State culture and media bodies have been working intensively to shed light on the role of women ensuring they enjoy their human rights. And a number of programs aiming at eliminating

the negative practices that lead to male-female discrimination have been broadcasted.

- The Ministry of Culture, through cultural palaces scattered all over the country, have engaged in various activities designed to change and modify the negative patterns of social and cultural behaviors, and have been working on introducing mechanisms in urban and rural areas of Egypt to combat the customs, traditions and negative habits that reflect negatively on the image of women. Among these mechanisms are the social and cultural clubs for both sexes introduced by the Ministry of social Solidarity and women's clubs, most of which are affiliated to the Ministry of Health and Population. In addition to development centers run by rural women associations and all of these projects are government-funded.
- In order to monitor audio and audio-visual media productions, the Board created a "Media Observatory" which monitors and evaluates episodes produced by such media and comes up with recommendations to correct this misleading media image and demands focusing on a positive image of Egyptian women highlighting the effective role they play in the family and society.
- The awareness convoys organized and implemented by the Ministry of Local Development, are some of the most important initiatives that work on conveying a direct message to the communities reinforcing positive values and social traditions and combating negative ones.
- This period, we are witnessing an increasing interest in women's issues, and a qualitative change through addressing issues of concern to women, which were previously neglected by the media, and showing positive role models for women in Egypt. The State believes in the importance of reinforcing such efforts through an integrated policy aimed at changing the values and concepts reflecting negatively on the situation of women and their role in society. This media policy includes the following elements:
 - ✓ Developing the media's vision where it comes to women's causes

- ✓ Developing the media discourse, with the aim of changing the community's culture in relation to women and gender issues, and promoting a culture of non-discrimination on the basis of gender, and applying equal opportunities.
- Several entities are putting an intensive effort to improve the image of women in the media and this is supported by the membership of the National Council for Women in the Board of Trustees of the Radio and Television Union. The National Council for Women has also established an electronic forum called the "Egyptian Women Gateway."
- The National Council for Women launched its website at www.ncwegypt.com and electronic portal "Egyptian Women Gateway" www.egywomennews.com in order to connect with the community more effectively, and deal with women's issues in more depth.
- The Council issued several publications, magazines and newsletters on various women's issues in order to shed light on the most important issues raised on the scene.
- The NCW library organized many cultural programs in collaboration with major public libraries in Cairo and with the participation of a group of experts and specialists concerned with women's issues in order to educate the various community sectors and to develop them intellectually and culturally.

c- Obstacles and Challenges

- The predominance of commercial media practices had led to a negative image of women that is not consistent with the reality of women and social values prevailing in the Egyptian society.
- Inadequacy of informative materials that identifies all women's rights in terms of Political, economic, and social.
- The scarcity of programs which shed the light on the effective engagement of women in various social, economic, political and scientific fields

11- Women and the Environment

a- Strategic Objectives

- Involve women actively in environmental decision-making at all levels.

- Achieve the integration between the social dimension and perspective in policies and programs for sustainable development.
- Establish mechanisms at the national level to reflect the impact of development and environmental policies on women.

b- Most Important Achievements

Article (46) of the Constitution of 2014 stipulates that "Everyone has the right to a healthy environment and that protecting it is a national duty, and that the State is committed to introduce the necessary laws to preserve it and to ensure the rational use of natural resources."

- Egypt developed a national action plan for the environment covering all aspects of sustainable development which is carried out by a national steering committee.
- 27 areas have been identified as natural reserves of a total of 40 areas which Egypt intends to identify as natural reserves by 2017. The first natural reserve in Egypt; Ras Mohammed National Park in southern Sinai, currently covers 15% of the total land area of Egypt.
- This plan targets improving the standard of living for those living in slums and providing them with clean drinking water. The State spent 3,148 billion Egyptian pounds during the period from 1993 to 2007 on the development and the removal of 1221 slum areas. Egypt was able to reduce the number of people not having access to clean drinking water by half, thus achieving the seventh goal of the Millennium Development Goals in this respect.
- The National Council for Women Commission for Environment, which is one of the standing committees, worked on developing the awareness and engagement of women in all issues related to the environment and proposed and implemented outreach programs geared towards women focusing on environment improvement, especially in the rural and slum areas.
- Egypt has embarked on establishing a legislative and institutional structure which focuses on preserving the environment through issuing laws and presidential, ministerial and administrative decrees organizing this area, including the EEAA.
- Egypt has given special attention in the last two decades to protecting our natural resources as a national cause, and has accordingly

established the system and needed legislation to protect the natural heritage of the State under the guidance and support of the political leadership confirming the integration of development sector with environmental protection and conservation of natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

- Law No.9 for 2009 amending provisions of Law No.4 for 1994 regarding protection of the environment was promulgated to achieve greater protection of the environment and to face the emerging phenomena of environmental pollution and to keep abreast of developments and international conventions which Egypt joined in the field of environment.
- The National Council for Women in collaboration with the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs and IDSC have signed an agreement to implement an awareness and training program for pioneer rural women and NGOs on how to implement the "biogas" project which supports the use of clean energy and the disposal of solid waste generated by livestock.
- NCW developed a study on the treatment of pollution effects caused by lead dust emitted from lead smelters in Shubra Al Khaimah because of its harmful impact on the health of women and children. Work is underway to develop a mechanism in this respect in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Population. These efforts resulted in the closure and transfer of foundries to areas outside of the residential neighborhoods.

c- Obstacles and Challenges

- Lack of awareness of the environmental risks
- Poor implementation of laws in a strict manner
- Lack of balance between the development requirements on one side, and the protection of environment and natural resources on the other.

12- Girls

a- Strategic Objectives:

- Eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls.
- Combat violence against girls

- Eliminate the economic exploitation exercised through child labor and protect young girls at work

b- The Most Important Achievements

- Article (19) of the Constitution of 2014 stipulates that education is the right of every citizen and that compulsory is education up to secondary school or equivalent. The State secures free of charge education at various stages of education in State run in situations in accordance with the law.
- Abolition of school fees at the primary level for individuals in the poorest areas, and expansion of pre-school education for early childhood, particularly for children in marginalized areas
- The National Council for Childhood and Motherhood in cooperation with the UNICEF, main NGOs, the information sector, 10 teams of local volunteers and 10 civil associations at the governorate level, the general governorate offices and the private sector have launched the National Girls' Education Initiative and the project is divided into two phases. The duration of the first phase extended from 2000 - 2007, and the second phase extended from 2008 - 2012 and have managed to achieve many of the project's achievements, including:
 - ✓ Complete the data bases and identify the gender gap and prepare girls in education outside the targeted sites.
 - ✓ The opening of new schools for girls' education.
 - ✓ The development of indicators for monitoring and evaluation.
 - ✓ Training of trainers, volunteers and Education Committees

c- Obstacles and Challenges

- Girls' marriage at an early age eliminates the chances of education.
- The continuation of some wrong habits in rural and remote areas such as female genital mutilation.
- The need to increase the number of schools and upgrade existing ones, especially for girls, in rural and remote areas

Part III

Analysis of the Development of the Status of Women in Egypt Constraints that Weaken Women's Role and their Contribution to Development

Introduction

The Egyptian society is characterized by a balanced gender distribution, as the number of women is close to the number of men. Therefore, it is fair to say that we cannot not exclude half of the society or deprive them from participating in the development process for there cannot be development or advancement of civilization without the participation of all members of the society.

Women play a key role in development that cannot be ignored. Where obstacles that reduce their effective and positive contribution are removed, they take a big part in the development process that the society definitely needs. If we look at the current position of women, we will find a wide range of constraints and obstacles that impede their progress and limit their ability to hold public office and to participate in political life, or occupy leadership positions whether in government, public sector or private sector which limits the potential for their contribution to development. This chapter sheds the light on some of these obstacles.

1- Social and Cultural Obstacles

- a. Illiteracy, which is still an obstacle especially in the countryside, deters women from understanding their rights and reality and hinders them from recognizing the importance of exercising their duties to the full, due to a female illiteracy rate of 32.5% in 2012.
- b. The outputs of the education process are not tied to the labor market or development needs.
- c. The economic recession and high unemployment rates, translate into marginalization of the less empowered category of society, ultimately resulting in depriving women from employment opportunities.
- d. The social and traditional legacies represented in:
 - i. A woman's natural place is her home and she must only work to add to the family's income.
 - ii. A lot of women lack the managerial skills due to her feminine nature.
 - iii. The reluctance of many women to assume leadership positions because of the burdens such positions add to their existing burdens.

- iv. The inability to achieve balance by allocating the time available between work and family duties (as a mother, nanny and wife) in a society that does not encourage sharing the responsibilities at home between men and women, in addition to the scarcity of services designed to support women in performing their various roles such as the availability of nurseries.
- e. The prevailing customs and traditions, which are evident in the dominance of traditional thinking, such as the belief that marriage and having a family of their own are the primary option, and perhaps the only one, which means that the return of a girl's education goes to her husband not her father or the family, and due to this misconception, education of women is believed to have no return, especially for families with limited income.
- f. The economic situation is one of the main factors that hinders women's education and has an impact on their educational approach especially in cases of unemployment of some family members or poverty and inability to financially support their education.
- g. The low ability of women to own and inherit properties in some areas, particularly in Upper Egypt due to some of the prevailing norms, which violate laws and contradict with the various heavenly religions , which prevent the inheritance of agricultural land and properties for females and this reflects negatively on the economic and social empowerment of women.

2- **Legislative Obstacles**

Some laws do not support the right of women to be promoted to leadership positions, especially positions where appointment is done by selection, which in reality translates into blocking these jobs for women and restricting them to male candidates, as well as the lack of adequate laws and regulations to help women balance between their traditional roles in caring for their families and the scope of responsibilities tied to work and assuming leadership roles.

3- **Administrative and Structural Obstacles**

The lack of adequate and appropriate opportunities that are made available to women that allows them to assume leadership positions. In addition to having

systems that impede women from exercising their role and employ their capabilities, encouraging their participation and highlighting their skills.

4- The misinterpretation of religious scriptures as one of the obstacles against women development

- a. The incorrect interpretation and prevailing misconceptions conflict with True Religion, all of which reflect negatively on the status of women and result in the denial of rights secured to them by their religions.
- b. The absence of enlightened interpretations of religious scriptures which clearly show the equality between women and men in rights and duties.
- c. The low interest of the Ministry of Awqaf in women's issues, paving the way sometimes to conservative religious discourse to control the religious platforms.

5- Some obstacles, relevant to women themselves, prevent them from assuming political positions

- a. The spread of illiteracy hinders women from taking part in political life
- b. The intervention of parents, husbands and brothers restricts women freedom of choice to participate in politics or public life
- c. Lack of women's awareness of the importance of their political role as a result of their family upbringing, and the schooling they receive since they were young.
- d. The lack of attention of women non-governmental organizations to women's empowerment as a cause and the weak stand women's movements take towards women's political participation, and not dealing with it as a general societal concern not limited to women.
- e. The lack of confidence of the Egyptian citizen, particularly women themselves in the importance of the role they play in decision-making.
- f. The Lack of confidence in women's ability to assume public and political positions.

Although the Egyptian Constitution did not set conditions preventing women candidacy in elections, and despite giving them the right to stand for parliament or elect their preferred candidates since the constitution in 1959, however the Egyptian

society in general deplors the idea of women running for elections, facing their difficulties and bearing their consequences.

Women in Legislations and Laws

Egypt has taken serious steps in recent years in relation to women's rights on the national and international level, and has succeeded in breaking the silence around a lot of traditional practices, especially in rural areas and Upper Egypt, such as depriving girls of education, young girls marriage, female genital mutilation, and child labor. Egyptian Women have gained grounds in many of the core issues, including education, health, legislations, assuming leadership positions, economic empowerment and candidacy for elections.

Egypt has also signed a number of international treaties and accords aimed at enhancing women's engagement in public and political life. It has signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Convention on the Political Rights of Women. Women's rights are currently guarded by the text of the Constitution, and articles of the Egyptian laws which do not distinguish between opportunities accessible to citizens based on gender, but based on their willingness to take the responsibility, their ability to gain experience and skills necessary to participate in the development process.

Egyptian women have proven their efficiency at work with confidence and proficiency. They have also proved to be successful and proficient in all areas endeavored, supported by the provisions of the Constitution and the Egyptian texts of laws that have given them many rights ensuring no discriminatory practices are made against women, starting from infancy through education, then as wives, or workers, ensuring they enjoy their political rights and participate in parliamentary councils, both legislative and local. But now, after changing the scenes in Egyptian life in general and women in particular after the January 25th revolution, it became necessary to maintain the gains made during the past years, as guaranteed by all laws and legislations and international convention.

Status of the Egyptian women in the different laws:

The status of women was organized in a series of laws: Such as the Law Regulating Political Rights, the Labor Law, the Civil Law, the Criminal Law, the Social Insurance Law, the Personal Status Law and the Nationality Law.

The Egyptian women were deprived of their political rights in Egypt until the issuance of the 1956 Constitution, after which they obtained the right to elect their representatives and nominate themselves for membership of the Parliament. Also, the laws that regulate political rights did not distinguish between men and women, but decided their equality in exercising these rights, pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution. Article (1) of Law No. 73 of 1956 regulating the exercise of political

rights provided that every Egyptian-national who is 18 years old may personally exercise the following political rights: Participation in the referendum on the presidency of the republic - participation in any other referendum provided for in the Constitution - participation in the election of the members of the parliament, the Shura Council and the municipal councils. Law No. (38) of 1972 was also issued, providing for equality between women and men in the right to nominate for membership of the Parliament. Also, Article (3) of the Code of mayors, which was issued in 1978, was cancelled. This article had restricted the right to nominate for the post of mayor to males only. As a result of its cancellation, serving the post of mayor became established for men and women since April 1994. Also, Law No. (41) of 1979 was issued, committing citizens who have the right to political participation – both men and women – to be registered in the electoral rolls: "Everyone who has the right to exercise political rights, both men and women, must be registered in the electoral rolls".

Based on these laws, women have the right: to be registered in the electoral rolls – to be nominated for the membership of both houses of parliament – to be nominated for the municipal councils – to join political parties – to be nominated for the post of mayor.

The activities of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in the field of gender:

1. Holding a cooperation protocol between the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and the National Council for Women to strengthen and promote cooperation between the two parties in the field of accessing to digital and geographical data, statistical information and indicators available through the Agency, in addition to the service and support of women's issues and the improvement of their economic and social development at the local and international levels.
2. Writing and publishing a periodical on "The status of women and men in Egypt", to be issued on a regular basis every year, in order to provide a clear image of the status of women compared to men in the various fields and to highlight the relationships, the gaps and the progress in the direction of equality and equal opportunities between them in the various social, economic and political fields. It also aims to highlight the need to increase awareness of the status of women and to draw the attention of policy makers towards more change and adopt reforms in the area of policies supporting the role of women in the society as well as supporting the efforts of workers in the field of gender equality.
3. The active participation in all workshops and meetings related to gender.
4. Launching a site for gender statistics on the home page of the Agency's website in July 2013.
5. The Agency publishes the Statistical Yearbook, comprising a full chapter on gender statistics in Egypt.

6. Launching the (EGYINFO) database in 2007 as a tool to follow the development in general and the Millennium Indicators in particular. All of these indicators are categorized by gender and updated annually.
7. Developing the forms of the General Census of Population and Housing in 2006, thus serving gender.
8. Holding workshops in cooperation with the international and regional organizations to train researchers on women-related researches.
9. In cooperation with the Council, the Agency conducts a national study on the forms of violence against women, and implements a field study on the use of time to measure and evaluate the unpaid work of the Egyptian women.

Part IV

Emerging Priorities

- The political transformation witnessed in Egypt after the revolutions of 25 January and 30 June, in whose entitlements the Egyptian women strongly participated either in the events of the revolutions or the rounds of the referendum on the Constitution and the presidential and parliamentary elections, thus emphasizing the role played by the Egyptian women in mapping the future.
- Under the new constitution of 2014, which included many items that emphasize the principle of respect for women's rights, ensuring their protection and freedom, and enabling them to play their role in development, comes the role of the State in the formulation of laws and regulations that ensure the implementation of the articles of the Constitution, and development of the strategies and plans necessary for the advancement of women in all areas in collaboration with the National Council for Women and the NGOs.
- According to the provisions of the Constitution, which confirmed the respect of all the international conventions signed by Egypt, efforts will be intensified to ensure the implementation of the recommendations relating to women in these conventions such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and other conventions.
- Egypt has made great efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The United Nations has defined some of the recommendations relating to the Millennium Development Goals after 2015, with which Egypt will be guided during the next phase when developing strategies, action plans and programs aiming to improve the situation of the Egyptian women, in the following aims:
 - The importance of equitable distribution of wealth during the privatization process, in addition to taking into account the participation of citizens in the drafting of resolutions and the positive cooperation between the civil society and the government institutions to achieve the interests of the poor.

- The promotion of income-generating projects and the fight against unemployment.
- The State's ensuring the educational, health and public services for the citizens, especially for the poor in rural areas.
- Upgrading the cultural and social levels of the poor, supporting the civil society and promoting its mission, achieving balance and equity between the rural and the urban areas and providing information to all NGOs.
- The National Council for Women will adopt the results and recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations (CSW58) held in New York City, including:
 - Respect for the principles and objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the work on the full and effective implementation of these objectives, which is an essential contribution to the achievement of the development goals agreed upon internationally.
 - The international commitments made at the United Nations summits and conferences relevant to the field of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.
 - The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the other relevant conventions and agreements provide an international legal framework and a comprehensive set of measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls and to promote gender equality and empower women.
 - The importance of the final document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, titled "The Future We Want", which recognizes the vital role of women in the achievement of sustainable development.
 - The important role played by the United Nations, especially the UN Women, which works to promote gender equality and empowerment of women, thus contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls at the global, regional and national levels.
- The National Council for Women will also be guided with the outcome of the 23rd extraordinary session of the General Assembly, including:
 - Considering the Political Declaration and the final document a reaffirmation of the governments' commitment to the global plan to achieve gender equality and empowerment of women in accordance with Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action 1995.
 - Dramatically promoting the gender perspective.
 - Promotion of women's access to decision-making.
 - Focusing on the approach that takes into account the differences between the sexes about the "AIDS" disease.
 - The gender perspective towards macroeconomic programs and the preparation of the budgets.
 - Violence against women as a crime punishable by law.
 - Trafficking in women and girls, especially in times of armed conflict.
 - The challenges posed by globalization.

- In addition to the new targets that were mentioned in the final document, including:
 - A 50%-improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, by continuing to support and promote literacy programs for the adults on the national, regional and international levels.
 - Ensuring a compulsory, universal and free primary education for boys and girls by 2015.
- The weak participation of women in political life has become a matter of concern regarding women's political future, since it contradicts with the great role played by women in the society and their increasing interest in public affairs and life, which was evident in their dazzling and decisive taking to the streets alongside men in the revolutions of 25 January 2011 and 30 June 2013 and their claiming of the country's right to bread, freedom and social justice. Therefore, there is an urgent need to reach the means to increasing women's representation in the parliament. And since the new constitution has urged the State to take the necessary measures to achieve adequate representation of women in the parliament, the expression of "appropriate representation" needs a legislative translation by reaching an electoral system that gives women a right suitable for their magnitude and role in the society. Work should also be intensified to build leadership capacities at all levels.
- The issue of collecting and analyzing data and classifying them by gender is a key part in the activities related to policies, where planners and policy-makers need them to assess trends and develop strategies and programs that take into account gender and also enable them to monitor and evaluate policies and programs in light of the national goals and objectives of the millennium. However, the scarcity of data categorized by gender hampers the efforts to help women achieve development in all areas. Therefore, the State must provide statistics and data on gender issues, taking into account the methodology of data collection, analysis and presentation. Gender statistics must also be integrated in the overall statistical system in areas of data collection, storage and presentation.
- The promotion of gender statistics is not easy to achieve as it requires dedication of efforts and organized and continuous labor, because increasing awareness of the importance of these statistics is the very core of the statistics. Therefore, the statistical activity is a key factor in promoting it. The Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics will be urged to develop clear and accurate indicators and make national statistics that are responsive to the needs of women in order to contribute to the policy-making more realistically.
- Continued cooperation with the decision makers in ministries and government institutions in order to integrate the national plan for the advancement of women into its programs, and coordinate with the relevant ministries and encourage them to integrate the dimension of gender in its programs and budgets.

- Intensifying cooperation with the (Muslim and Christian) clergies to change the perceptions and negative thoughts toward women and render the community aware of women's rights and issues.
- Coordination of work and cooperation between the Council, the civil society organizations and the NGOs to organize and intensify the activities prompting the required change in the areas of awareness of women's rights.
- Continuity of studying the Egyptian women's issues, assessing their situations, proposing policies, reviewing the relevant legislation and putting forward solutions that support the advancement of women in the various fields.

Methodology of the Report's Preparation

This report was prepared by the National Council for Women, which is the national mechanism established by Presidential Decree No. 90 of 2000, and which is in charge of working on the advancement of women and enabling them to participate in all the economic, political and social areas to achieve a sustainable development.

When drafting the report, the Council relied on the principle of participation with stakeholders by holding meetings, which had a positive impact on the content so as to reflect the real situation of the Egyptian women.

Participants in the preparation of the report:

- Experts in various fields.
- Representatives of ministries, concerned government agencies, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, and some of the specialized national councils such as the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, the National Population Council, and the National Council for Human Rights.
- Representatives of research and study centers.
- Representatives of several civil society organizations, in the form of civil societies, trade unions, political parties ... etc.

The report's preparation mechanism and methodology:

- The National Council for Women made a report on a sharing basis through a committee that was formed of members comprising experts in the various areas of the advancement of women.
- The Council was keen to refer to the concerned authorities, to obtain the necessary data, and to consult with them on the difficulties and challenges faced by these authorities and the current or future procedures to meet these challenges. In this regard, the Council was also keen to consult and coordinate with the relevant national authorities and communicate with the women's vocational civil society institutions, to find out their views on any issues or observations concerning the eighth report, so that the Council takes them into consideration.
- The Council relied on reports of women's surveys all over the country, stemming from a number of meetings, conferences, workshops, panel discussions and surveys carried out by the 27 branches of the Council in the governorates. These reports reflected women's visions expressing the reality they face.
- The general recommendations of the Committee, Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Millennium Development Goals, particularly the third goal on gender equality, as well as the relevant reports such as the

human development reports issued by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

- In the context of the efforts to prepare the report, all the United Nations documents committed by Egypt have been reviewed in order to take their recommendations into account, in particular those recommendations related to gender equality. The result of this effort was that an action-oriented strategy for the National Council for Women until 2015 was formulated in the aim of comprehensively empowering women and emphasizing on achieving the third goal of the Millennium Development Goals that are committed by the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- During the period covered by this report, cooperation increased between the National Council for Women, the governmental and non-governmental organizations, the civil society establishments and the knowledge and research institutions at the national level through the signing of cooperation protocols and the practice of joint activities aimed at achieving gender equality. Also, the Council's cooperation extended to include regional and international organizations, such as the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in addition to many United Nations organizations including the United Nations Organization for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment...as well as the "Development Assistance Group (DAG) – Egypt", which include bilateral and multilateral donors.

Lessons Learned and Successful Practices

The participation of the Council in the 50-Member Committee for the Formulation of the New Constitution in 2014 provided the opportunity to organize hearings for the neediest Egyptian women at the level of the Republic -- such as the family provider women, the elderly women, the handicapped women, and the women who support one or several handicapped individuals within the family -- to view their most important needs and proposals for alleviating the suffering of women from various problems, and to emphasize their rights to access to health care and educational and cultural services and also emphasize the role of the State and its authorities and institutions is their commitment to maintain a State of justice, rule of law, equality, freedom and equal opportunities for all citizens, men and women.

Despite the fact that the new constitution did not provide for the allocation of a quota for women in the parliament, the participation of the Council led to the issue of a number of articles ensuring women's rights and working to improve their conditions, as well as the allocation of a quota for women in the municipal councils, thus giving the rural women a great opportunity for decision-making and directing the policies necessary to achieve their requirements.

The Council's efforts which began in 2002 led to the development of the planning method for setting up the national plans for social and economic development so as to ensure the integration of the concept of gender when developing these plans. Then, the concept of decentralization and sharing was applied in the responsive-to-gender-planning, through the sixth National Plan (2007/2012) and the seventh National Plan (2012/2017), which resulted in the integration of women's affairs from the level of the village and neighborhood to the levels of the center, the city and then the governorate. These efforts resulted also in doubling the funds that were allocated for the projects and programs to improve the status and advancement of women.

The need for coordination and joint action with non-governmental organizations in many cases, especially the social and the political cases, is important and necessary for the achievement of a number of common goals, particularly those related to motivating women to participate. The civil society's initiatives in eliminating violence against women have contributed to highlighting the issue and guiding public opinion against some of the most important negative images that are currently taking place in the community, such as sexual harassment. The voluntary initiatives of some non-governmental organizations have also succeeded in opening channels for the participation of women, voluntarily, in controlling and monitoring the activities of the referendum on the Constitution in 2014 through commissions for women in all governorates. Thus, it played a role in increasing the rate of women's participation in public life and politics, and was able to monitor violations that women and girls may encounter during their participation in political life, in addition to analyzing the pros and cons of the practical application of the legal procedures organizing the referendum and their direct and indirect impact on women's participation.

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Statistics on the Egyptian Women

First: work related statistics:

Table # 1 Percentage of wage female workers in non-agricultural activities during the period from (2007-2012)

year	Percentage of wage female workers in non-agricultural activities
2007	19
2008	18.2
2009	17.7
2010	17.5
2011	18.5
2012	19.1

Source: Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (labour force research)

Table # 2 unemployment ratio (15-64 years) divided by gender during the period from (2007-2012)

year	Unemployment ratio	
	Males	females
2007	5.9	18.6
2008	5.6	19.3
2009	5.2	23.0
2010	4.9	22.6
2011	8.9	22.7
2012	9.3	24.1

Source: Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (labour force research)

Table # 3 Ratio of individuals contribution in economic activity (15 years old or more) according to gender during the period from (2007-2012)

year	Ratio of contribution in economic activity	
	Males	females
2007	71.7	23.2
2008	72.4	21.8
2009	72.3	22.9
2010	75	23.2
2011	74.6	22.5
2012	74.1	22.4

Source: Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (labour force research)

Second: In public life and leading positions:

Table # 4 percentage of diplomats divided by gender (2010, 2012)

Grade	2010		2012	
	males	females	males	females
High rank ambassador	91.3	8.7	76.5	23.5
Ambassador	84.8	15.2	87.3	12.7
Plenipotentiary	87.1	12.9	85.8	14.2
Chancellor	87.2	12.8	83.3	16.7
First Grade Secretary	80.9	19.1	78.1	21.9
Second Grade Secretary	73.4	26.6	65.9	34.1
Third Grade Secretary	67.6	32.4	70.8	29.2
Attaché	79.7	20.3	66.7	33.3
Total	80.9	19.1	77.5	22.5

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Diplomatic Cord

Table # 5 Percentage of employees working in the Judiciary System 2012

Percentage of employees working in the Judiciary System 2012	
Males	Females
99.6	0.4

Source: Ministry of Justice

Table # 6 Government employees divided by sector and gender (2011/2012-2012/2013)

Sector	Government employees %			
	2012/2011		2013/2012	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Administrative system	89.0	11.0	88.4	11.6
Local administration	61.8	38.2	61.8	38.2
Service authorities	71.0	29.0	72.3	27.7
Economic authorities	71.9	28.1	73.2	26.8
Universities	62.1	37.9	59.8	40.2
Total	72.3	27.7	72.5	27.5

Source: Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (census of civil employees in the government, public sector and business sector)

Table # 7 percentage of management positions in the government sector divided by gender 2011/2012

Grade	Males	females
Minister and above	97.1	2.9
Deputy Minister	100	---
Senior assistant to the Minister	---	100
Assistant Minister	100	---
Superior grade	88.9	11.1
Senior	81.1	18.9
General Manager	62.3	37.1
Total	63.3	36.7

Source: Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (census of civil employees in the government, public sector and business sector)

Third: in the field of Political Participation

Table # 8 percentage of individuals listed in the election lists divided by gender

(1986-2012)

Year	percentage of individuals listed in the election lists divided by gender %	
	Males	females
1986	82	18
2000	65	35
2003	63	37
2005	62	38
2007	60	40
2010	59	41
2012	51.7	48.3

Source; Ministry of Interior, Information Center.

1- Participation in the parliament

A- Representation in the parliament

Table # 9 percentage of representation in the Parliament according to gender during the period from (1957- 2012)

Courses	percentage of representation in the Parliament %	
	Males	Females
1957	99.4	0.6
1984-79	91	9
1987-84	91.7	8.3
1990-87	96.1	3.9
1995-90	97.8	2.2
2000-95	97.4	2.6
2005-2000	97.1	2.9
2010 - 2005	98.2	1.8
2010	87.3	12.7
2012dissolved	98.0	2.0

Source: Ministry of Interior, Information Center

B- Representation in the Shura Council

Table # 10 percentage of representation in the Shura Council according to gender during the period from (1980-2012)

Courses	% percentage of representation in the Shura Council	
	Males	Females
1980	96.7	3.3
1996	94.3	5.7
2002	94.3	5.7
2007	92.1	7.9
Mid-term renewal 2010	92.0	8.0
Dissolved Shura council 2012	95.2	4.8

Source: Ministry of Interior, Information Center

C- Representation in local councils

Table # 11 percentage of representation in local councils divided by governorate and gender for the term of (2002-2008)

Governorate	2002		2008	
	males	Females	males	females
Cairo	94.3	5.7	89.3	10.7
Alexandria	95.9	4.1	92.7	7.3
Portsaid	93.5	6.5	91.4	8.6
Suez	96.6	3.4	90.6	9.4
Damietta	97.9	2.1	96.1	3.9
Dakahlia	97.7	2.3	94.0	6.0
Sharqia	98.5	1.5	91.5	8.5
Qaliobia	97.1	2.9	92.1	7.9
Kafr El Sheikh	99.3	0.7	95.5	4.5
Gharbia	98.7	1.3	96.1	3.9
Monofiya	98.1	1.9	95.1	4.9
Behaira	98.7	1.3	92.1	7.9
Ismailia	97.1	2.9	95.3	4.7
Giza	98.5	1.5	95.0	5.0
BeniSuef	99.1	0.9	94.4	5.6
Fayoum	99.2	0.8	97.4	2.6
Minya	99.2	0.8	96.2	3.8

Assiut	99.3	0.7	97.1	2.9
Sohag	99.7	0.3	98.6	1.4
Qena	99.6	0.4	99.0	1.0
Aswan	98.9	1.1	96.6	3.4
Luxor	99.1	0.9	97.2	2.8
Red sea	97.8	2.2	90.8	9.2
El Wadi El Gadid	95.9	4.1	92.6	7.4
Matrouh	99.3	0.7	99.9	0.1
North Sinai	94.9	5.1	92.9	7.1
South Sinai	90.8	9.2	91.4	8.6
Total	98.2	1.8	95.0	5.0

Source: Ministry of Interior, Information Center

d- members of professional Syndicates

**Table # 12 percentage of members of professional syndicates divided by gender
(2009 and 2012)**

Syndicate	percentage of members of professional syndicates %			
	2009		2012	
	males	Females	males	females
Physicians	65	35	67.5	32.5
dentists	52	48	58.2	41.8
veterinarians	60	40	61.8	38.2
pharmacists	54	46	47.8	52.2
Agriculture professions	76	24	75.8	24.2
Commercial professions	56	44	55.3	44.7
Cinema related profession	71	29	72	28
nurses	8	92	8.5	91.5
Educational professions	-----	-----	54.6	55.4
Formative artists	50	50	56.5	43.5
Social professions	60	40	39.1	60.9
Tourist guides	70	30	73.9	26.1
Sports professions	75	25	70.7	29.3
Physiotherapy	51	49	46.5	53.5
engineers	83	17	82.3	17.7

Lawyers	74	26	72.7	27.3
Applied artists	95	5	---	----
Music related professions	81	19	80.5	19.5
Actors professions	67	33	65.2	34.8
Scientific professions	67	33	64.8	35.2
Journalists	71	29	68.8	31.2
total	69	31	59.5	40.5

Source: Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, annual bulletin for social service statistics for selected years

Fourth: in the field of Education

Table # 13 percentage of Literacy (10 years or more) according to gender and residence location in 2012

Geographic scope	Males	females	total
Cairo	13	22	17.4
Alexandria	12.3	20.8	16.5
Portsaid	9.3	17	13.1
Suez	12.8	21	16.8
Damietta	11.7	17	14.3
Dakahlia	16.7	28.3	22.4
Sharqia	19.8	34.3	26.9
Qaliobia	15.3	29.5	22.2
Kafr El Sheikh	19.6	35.8	27.7
Gharbia	13.5	28	20.7
Monofiya	11.8	26.1	18.7
Behaira	22.6	41	31.6
Ismailia	8.1	21.9	14.9
Giza	15.4	29.9	22.4
BeniSuef	24	45.7	34.8
Fayoum	25.7	44.5	34.7
Minya	25.7	48.3	36.8
Assiut	22.1	41.7	31.7
Sohag	23.6	45	34.3
Qena	20.6	40	30.3
Aswan	12	24.1	18
Luxor	23.1	40.2	31.5
Red sea	9.9	15.8	12

El Wadi El Gadid	7.7	15.7	11.5
Matrouh	16.1	40.9	28
North Sinai	13.2	25.4	19.1
South Sinai	14.5	22.6	17.1
Total	17.6	32.5	24.9

Source: Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (labour force research)

Table #14 percentage of school dropout divided by gender between 2010/2011 and 2011/2012

Educational level	Males	females	total
Primary level	0.15	0.53	0.34
Preparatory level	6.5	5.6	6.0

Source: Ministry of Education

Table # 15 percentage of net enrollment in pre-university education in 2012.2013

Educational level	males	females
Pre-primary	23.7	23.7
Primary	92.4	94.3
Prepartory	80.4	87.2
General high school	24.8	31.3
Technical Secondary -Industrial	18.6	12.3
Technical Secondary -Agricultural	4.7	1.3
Technical Secondary -Commercial	8.5	15.2

Source: Ministry of Education

Table # 16 percentage of females enrollment to the total enrollment in all educational phases in 2012/2013 (total)

Educational level	Percentage of females to total students
Pre-primary	48.01
Primary	48.26
Prepartory	49.34
General high school	53.74
Technical Secondary -Industrial	35.75
Technical Secondary -Agricultural	18.57
Technical Secondary -Commercial	60.78

Source: Ministry of Education

Table # 17 percentage of Egyptian University Faculty Staff divided by gender during the period (1991/1992- 2011/2012)

Years	Distribution of faculty members							
	Professors, assistant professors and teachers		Assistant teachers		Assistantship		total	
	males	Females	males	Females	males	females	males	females
1992/1991	75	25	67	33	64	36	71	29
1993/1992	75	25	67	33	62	38	71	29
1994/1993	75	25	67	33	58	42	71	29
1995/1994	75	25	66	34	56	44	70	30
1996/1995	74	26	66	34	54	46	70	30
1997/1996	74	26	65	35	53	47	69	31
1998/1997	74	26	64	36	52	48	68	32
1999/1998	73	27	63	37	51	49	67	33
2000/1999	73	28	62	38	50	50	66	34
2001/2000	72	28	60	40	49	51	65	35
2002/2001	71	29	60	40	48	52	64	36
2005/2004	69	31	57	43	45	55	62	38
2007/2006	67	33	56	44	43	57	60	40
2010/2009	65	35	52	48	40	60	57	43
2012/2011	62.6	37.4	49.4	50.6	39.5	60.5	55.1	44.9

Source: Supreme Council of Universities- Ministry of Higher Education

Fifth: in the field of Health

Table # 18 total reproduction rate and current use of contraceptive methods according to the results of Health census in Egypt

Year	2000		2005		2008	
	TFR	CPR	TFR	CPR	TFR	CPR
Urban areas	3.1	61.2	2.7	62.6	2.7	64.3
Rural areas	3.9	52	3.4	56.8	3.2	57.5
Urban governorates	2.9	62.7	2.5	63.9	2.6	65.2

Lower Egypt	3.2	62.4	2.9	65.9	2.9	64.3
Urban areas in Lower Egypt	3.1	64.9	2.7	64.1	2.6	65.5
Rural areas in Lower Egypt	3.3	61.4	3	66.5	3	63.9
Upper Egypt	4.2	45.1	3.7	49.9	3.4	52.7
Urban areas in Upper Egypt	3.4	55.4	3.1	60	3	62.4
Rural areas in Upper Egypt	4.7	40.2	3.9	45.2	3.6	48.4
Borders governorates	3.8	43	3.3	49.3	3.3	52.3
Total Governorate	3.5	56.1	3.1	59.2	3	60.3
Total reproduction rate (enfant for each woman): TFR						
CPR: Current rate of using the contraceptive methods for each family						
Source: Health Census in Egypt 2000, 2005, 2008						

Table # 19 rate of use of contraceptive methods divided by governorates during the period from 1988-2008

Governorate	1988	1992	1995	2000	2005	2008
Urban governorates	56	59.1	58.1	62.7	63.9	65.2
Cairo	58.9	58.1	56.9	62.3	63.8	66.8
Alexandria	51.6	62.1	59.8	64.7	64.5	63.7
Portsaid	48.2	60.5	59.7	57.7	61.6	54.7
Suex	50.3	57.3	62.4	58	64	65.8
Lower Egypt Governorates	41.2	53.5	55.4	62.4	65.9	64.3
Ismailia	41	50.2	58.5	58.9	59.6	56.5
Damietta	54.1	53.4	57.4	58.8	63.9	64.2
Dakahlia	41.3	52.8	54.9	62.8	64.4	64.4
Sharqia	35.2	49.2	53.1	61.4	62.2	65.7
Qaliobia	42.3	57.9	55.6	64	69.4	59.9
Kafr El Sheikh	41.7	47.2	54.4	64.2	65.8	62.1
Gharbia	50.1	55.9	55.9	65.7	69.7	67.1
Monofiyay	43.9	55.7	54.3	61.3	64.2	66.3
Beheira	32.5	54.7	58.7	59.8	68.7	66.1
Upper Egypt Governorates	22.1	31.4	32.1	45.1	49.9	52.7

Giza	45.7	49.9	50.9	60.5	62.1	62.4
BeniSuef	15.3	29.2	30.4	53	56	56.9
Fayoum	20.2	33.3	34	50.4	55.9	55.7
Minya	16.6	21.9	24.3	46.7	51.4	54.1
Assiut	12.7	28.2	22.1	32.9	37.9	47.4
Sohag	16.2	19.8	21.7	27.5	32.7	36.3
Qena	12.2	24.7	26.3	34.6	47.2	48
Aswan	18.6	31.9	36	44.9	49	53.4
Luxor	--	----	---	----	---	54.5
Total governorates	37.8	47.1	47.9	56.1	59.2	60.3
Source: Health Census from 1988 – 2008						